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THE TIMES

No. 65,188 SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11 1995

Air chief told: quit now or face an inquiry



Rifkind: failed to make statement to Commons

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

AIR Chief Marshal Sir Sandy Wilson, the senior RAF commander forced to resign over the £387,000 spent on renovating his official residence, was given an ultimatum to leave the service or face suspension and an inquiry that could have lasted 18 months.

Last night, as Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, was criticised by MPs for failing to make a statement in person to the Commons, the treatment of Sir Sandy was described by some defence sources as "equivalent to blackmail".

Sir Sandy, 53, who announced yesterday that he was to take early retirement, is understood to have been given the ultimatum in a meeting with Mr Rifkind. According to defence sources, he faced two choices: to resign on a pension or be suspended from his job as commander-in-chief of RAF Personnel and Training Command and face an inquiry into his involvement in the Haymes Garth affair. The sources said that Sir Sandy and his wife, Mary, had already faced a year of pressure and innuendo and were both suffering from ill health. They said Sir Sandy could not face another 18 months of the same treatment, even if he were to be exonerated at the end of the inquiry.

He told Mr Rifkind he would resign. Yesterday, although there was no mention of the ultimatum in his resignation letter, Sir Sandy's statement hinted at the strain he and his wife have faced. He said: "I have served the RAF loyally for 35 years and it is with great regret that I have indicated to the Chief of the Air Staff my intention to take early retirement. I have taken this step in the hope that it will relieve pressure on my Service and my family."

Mr Rifkind was in Scotland when Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, presented a written Commons answer detailing the findings of the independent report by Sheila Masters, of KPMG Peat Marwick into the Haymes Garth overspend. However, he issued a statement through the MoD, in which he said Sir Sandy had had a "distinguished career in which he has given his country much valuable service".

The failure by Mr Rifkind to make a personal statement to the Commons was branded a "disgrace" by one MP. John Wilkinson, Tory MP for Ruislip and Northwood and a former RAF officer who once trained with Sir Sandy, said: "The Secretary of State should fulfil his responsibilty to Parliament about his role in the loss to the nation of one of the RAF's most respected and capable commanders. He has a brilliant record of distinguished service and this is the kind of loss that the Service and the country cannot afford. I believe that he has been made a scapegoat."

Mr Wilkinson claimed Sir Sandy had been the victim of "trial by innuendo and leaks to the press". Last night the MoD denied that claim and said that he had resigned voluntarily.

Sir Sandy will continue in

Continued on page 2, col 6

Errors of judgment, page 6
Simon Jenkins, page 16



Wilson: told to resign or face suspension

Judge attacks mandatory sentences

Two soldiers get life for Ulster killing

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A JUDGE in Belfast called for the abolition of the mandatory life sentence for murder yesterday as he jailed two Scots Guardsmen for killing a teenager in the city.

The two men had been part of a four-man patrol and the victim, Peter McBride, 18, had run away when challenged by another of the soldiers in the group in September 1992.

Lord Justice Kelly made his comments as he jailed Mark Wright, 21, from Arbroath, and James Fisher, 28, from Ayrshire. He said that the mandatory sentence was artificial and he called on Parliament to consider a new crime of culpable homicide to cover murder and manslaughter.

Relatives of the victim, who died in the republican New Lodge area of Belfast, applauded as Lord Justice Kelly sentenced the two soldiers. Some stood in the public gallery and shouted abuse as the men were led from the dock and some had to be escorted from the building after clashes with police outside the court.

The sentencing followed the recent furore over the unsuccessful appeal by Private Lee Clegg, of the Parachute Regiment, who is also serving life for murder.

The Scots Guardsmen claimed that McBride was carrying a plastic bag that contained a coffee jar bomb. He was stopped for questioning by a Lance Sergeant.

Wright and Fisher said at their trial that they chased McBride after he ran away from the sergeant. Fisher said he felt threatened because he thought McBride was trying to set a trap by running to a car. Wright said he opened fire after he heard a shot, which he thought had been fired by the teenager.



Peter McBride: shot as he ran from patrol

Mr Justice Kelly said, however, that the two soldiers had concocted the story of the threat posed by the teenager, and added that the soldiers had "acted in concert" to kill or seriously injure McBride. The judge said McBride was not a suspected terrorist and the patrol had not been alerted to a potential paramilitary attack at the time.

Lord Justice Kelly said: "The whole image of the case is that of a cheeky young man after an impudent confrontation with [a member of the patrol] running away as hard as he could. That picture did not suggest a young man wandering round with a bomb in a bag nor a plan to lead a patrol into a trap. The deceased man was running away from his pursuers, intent on shaking them off."

The judge appeared to contrast the shooting with the case of Clegg, who was convicted of murdering a passenger in a joyrider's car in West Belfast in 1990. Lord Justice Kelly said: "It was not a panic situation that required split-second action. The circumstances contrasted with a soldier being confronted in the dark of night by a moving vehicle. That is a different situation."

Lord Justice Kelly said he had delayed his judgment while he awaited the outcome of Clegg's appeal to the House of Lords to have his conviction reduced to manslaughter. He told the court yesterday: "Their lordships argued that question in the negative. Even if they had argued in the affirmative, I doubt if a verdict of manslaughter would have fitted my findings in this case."

The judge said, however, that Parliament might like to examine the law of homicide. He said: "Parliament in a broader examination of the law of homicide, as it may affect all persons, might consider the substitution of a single crime of culpable homicide for the present categories of manslaughter and murder, and the abolition of the mandatory life sentence with all its artificiality."

The parents of Peter McBride last night welcomed the sentences. Jean McBride, the victim's mother, said: "I hope this is not going to be a Clegg affair now that the judgment is over. They murdered my child. Their family is crying, but they can see their sons next week. I go to a graveyard, and I don't see mine."

The judge's comments about the law of homicide echo the concerns of a considerable pressure group. Lawyers believe the category could apply to those in uniform who, while carrying out their duty, kill neither in self-defence nor to make an arrest, and in a manner that is not premeditated.

Some campaigners have argued that such a charge could also relate to killing where, in the course of duty, excessive force has been used to make an arrest or in self-defence. At present both situations lead to a murder charge and, on conviction, a mandatory life sentence. The new catagory would give judges the discretion to set a suitable sentence, as they do in cases of manslaughter, where in the case of murder it is the Home Secretary who determines the time spent in jail.



Owen Oyston leaves Altrincham police station yesterday. He said the night he spent in police custody was "brilliant, better than the Hilton"

Owen Oyston on rape charges

OWEN OYSTON, the millionare publisher and owner of Blackpool Football club, was charged with eight sex offences yesterday, including four counts of rape, and given conditional bail (Kate Alderson writes).

Mr Oyston, 60, appeared at a hearing at Trafford magistrates in Manchester, almost 36 hours after he was arrested on Thursday morning. Mr Oyston, who is married with five children, is charged with four rapes, three indecent assaults and conspiring to procure girls under the age of 21 to have sexual intercourse. The court heard that the four rapes are alleged to have taken place between April 1988 and December 1992. Two of the incidents are said to have taken place at Claughton Hall, Mr Oyston's home, and another in London. No location was given for the fourth count. The three indecent assaults are alleged to have taken place between September 1989 and December 1991. Mr Oyston is also charged with conspiring with Charles Martin, the former owner of a model agency in Manchester, to procure girls under the age of 21 to have sexual intercourse in any part of the world with a third party.

John Lord, prosecuting, applied for a remand on conditional bail which was agreed to by Anthony Scrivener, QC, defending.

After the hearing Mr Oyston was taken to Altrincham police station and emerged last night to declare his innocence. He told reporters that the night he had spent in police custody was "brilliant".

"It was better than the Hilton," he said. "I just don't want to have to repeat it."

Major strives in vain to quell Cabinet feuding

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR was last night fighting an increasingly forlorn battle to hold his Government together after Cabinet divisions over a single currency erupted into open warfare.

The Prime Minister said that Kenneth Clarke's speech on Thursday night, in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer extolled the potential benefits of economic and monetary union, was in line with his thinking. He denied that ministers were divided over the issue.

Mr Major's efforts to keep up a united front were, however, shaken by public criticism of Mr Clarke by Michael Portillo, the Employment Secretary. Mr Portillo, the Cabinet's most prominent Eurosceptic, said it did not help for ministers to go beyond the "settled policy" set out by the Prime Minister: that Britain would stand aside from any single currency agreed by the European Union before the next election.

Other right-wing ministers suggested it would be better for the Government if Mr Clarke did not look so far ahead.

In another sign of the air of crisis enveloping the Conservative high command, Lord Tebbit, the former party chairman, warned Mr Major that ministers were after his job. In remarks apparently referring to Mr Clarke and Michael Heseltine, the President of the Board of Trade and the Cabinet's other European standard-bearer, Lord Tebbit said: "I just have to say to John Major, 'Just watch it'. There are people in the Cabinet who ... would still like the Prime Minister's job."

Lord Tebbit, a hardline Euro-sceptic, compared alleged differences between the Prime Minister and his Chancellor over a single currency with the corrosive feud between Margaret Thatcher and Nigel Lawson, her Chancellor, over the Exchange-Rate Mechanism that eventually precipitated her downfall.

Mr Clarke dismissed his intervention as mischief-making, saying that he and the Prime Minister had worked together on the speech. "Norman has a habit of trying to make people's blood run cold."

The Chancellor insisted in interviews yesterday that he was simply trying to engineer a "serious and intelligent" debate about monetary union and keep options open while working with fellow Europeans on the practicalities.

As the Prime Minister embarked on a tour of Oxfordshire, the most alarming development was the crumbling of Cabinet discipline over the issue, which threatens to tear the Tories apart before the election. Mr Portillo, in an interview which he reportedly

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'The debate in the Tory Party is not simply about a single currency, it is about Britain and a vision of its future'
— Tony Blair, page 16

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Dresden protest against British

An anti-British demonstration will be staged by neo-Nazis in Dresden today to mark the 50th anniversary of the decision to raze the German city.

Despite a comprehensive ban on protests by the city authorities, the so-called Federation for a United Germany used computer mailboxes to mobilise sympathisers. At the official ceremonies on Monday, the principal British representative will be the Duke of Kent ..... Page 11

£276m victory for Maxwell pensioners

BY ROBERT MILLER

PENSIONERS faced with ruin after Robert Maxwell plundered their pension funds learnt last night that a £276 million deal had been agreed to restore their financial security. Mirror Group Newspapers said the deal when approved by the courts could release more than £100 million MGN set aside to cover lost pension funds.

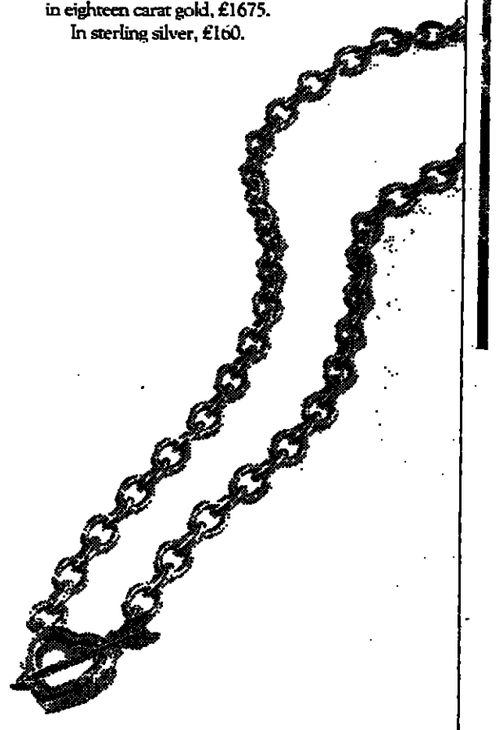
More than three years after the tycoon's body was found floating in the Atlantic, the trustees of his company pension funds announced that a group of City institutions had agreed to settle claims. The deal ended years of mental turmoil for 32,000 people who had worked for Maxwell companies and had learnt after his death that he had stolen about £440 million in pensions cash.

Ken Trench, chairman of the Maxwell Pensioners' Action Group, representing 20,000 Maxwell pensioners, said: "Obviously this is tremendous news. These people can get on with living their lives. This [affair] has spoilt what should be a secure, pleasant retirement for many and made it into a nightmare. But that nightmare is over."

He had spoken to a number of pensioners who were in "Cloud-cuckoo-land" after hearing they were to receive all their pension, he said. "It is a bit like winning the lottery." The deal further secures the future for Maxwell pensioners, but still falls short of making up the £400 million worth of funds stolen from the pension schemes.

The trustees of the four schemes involved in yesterday's settlement were quick to point out that they would still be pursuing other parties who had business dealing with Maxwell companies and pension funds.

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Jailed guardsmen 'thought shot teenager had coffee jar bomb'

BY NICHOLAS WATT
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

MARK WRIGHT, James Fisher and two other Scots Guardsmen had embarked on a routine Army patrol through the republican New Lodge estate in north Belfast on the morning of September 4, 1992. A month earlier the IRA had shot dead a soldier in the area, and the guardsmen would have been conscious of the danger.

Yesterday Wright, 21, from Arbroath, and Fisher, 28, from Ayrshire, were convicted at Belfast Crown Court of murdering Peter McBride, 18, who was shot as he ran away from their patrol.

At 10.25am on the day of the shooting a lance sergeant in the patrol stopped Mr McBride for questioning. He had a record of petty crime but no convictions for paramilitary offences.

Wright claimed at his trial last year that the patrol took up defensive positions on a street corner as his sergeant stopped Mr McBride. The guardsman said that the teenager seemed to be startled and appeared to be holding something under the jacket, which he thought was a coffee jar bomb.

Wright said: "He had a white plastic bag rolled up in a cylinder in his hand. My initial thought was it was a Mark 15 coffee jar bomb because of the way he was holding it and the way we had been consistently briefed on the threat of a Mark 15." The guardsman said that after Mr McBride was questioned he ripped the sergeant's ear piece from his head and jumped over a fence into a garden. As Mr McBride ran down the street the sergeant shouted "grab him", and Wright and Fisher gave chase.

Wright said he heard his colleague shout two or three times: "Army, stop or I will fire."

Wright then claimed that he cocked his weapon. "I ran down the street with my head down, then I heard a round being fired. I dropped to one knee and fired two aimed shots at the youth. It looked to me as if he had turned and fired because of the side-on view I had of him." However, the guardsman admitted that he had not seen a gun or anything resembling one.

After opening fire, Wright claimed that he heard another two shots almost simultaneously, and Mr McBride appeared to crumple to the ground. At this point he saw Fisher standing with his rifle at his shoulder. He later saw the teenager sitting in an alleyway. "Then the youth fell over on to his back and I thought we had hit him," Wright told the court.

Fisher told the court that he pursued the teenager and opened fire because he believed Mr McBride was armed with a bomb and because he feared he was being led into a trap. He said he fired a further two shots at Mr McBride because he still considered him a threat. The guardsman said he had no intention of killing.

However, Mr Justice Kelly yesterday rejected the key elements of the guardsmen's cases as untrue. He told Wright that he had deliberately lied in a number of areas to give himself a stronger case. The judge asked whether Fisher would have pursued Mr McBride if he believed he was under threat.

Two get life, page 1

Britain must compete in 'savage world'

Economist defends wealth gap as price of survival

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

EFFORTS to reverse Britain's widening gap between rich and poor could bring economic disaster, a leading economist warned yesterday.

Patrick Minford, Professor of Economics at Liverpool University and one of the group of economists that advises the Chancellor of the Exchequer, said the Joseph Rowntree Foundation inquiry into income and wealth had failed to take account of the "savage world" in which Britain had to compete.

The year-long inquiry, whose members included Howard Davies, Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry, said the gap between rich and poor was wider than at any time since the Second World War and that millions of people were being denied a stake in the country's future. The report said that between 1979 and 1992, the real incomes of the richest 10 per cent rose by 55 per cent while the incomes of the poorest 10 per cent stayed the same. It said urgent measures had to be taken to correct the imbalance which would otherwise threaten social cohesion and the country's economic prospects.

Professor Minford said: "The facts are not in dispute. However, over the past 20 years in the United States the bottom 10 per cent of the population have had a cut in their real living standards of 20 per cent. What is remarkable is that we have managed to avoid that.

"The conclusions of the Rowntree inquiry are extraordinary. They want to go back to a redistributive welfare system. There is a very sharp trade-off between a free market system where wages find their own level and you get wage inequality, and a redistributive system accompanied by huge unemployment.

"What we need, and have successfully provided, is a safety net welfare system, not a redistributive system, to counter absolute poverty. We have benefits linked to prices which give people some kind of guarantee.

"That is already quite an ambitious floor, given the fall in the real incomes of the poorest in the United States. The inquiry has not properly taken account of the savage world we're in."

Howard Davies, who served on the inquiry in a personal capacity, said in a newspaper article yesterday that there were dangers for the economy and for business in a continued widening of income distibution. "Such a trend cannot fail to present a threat to social cohesion. A growing number of people have become detached from the market economy, unable to make a contribution to wealth creation.

"That represents a significant waste of resources and increases other social costs in the health service and the criminal justice system as well as the social security budget. Growing income inequality may therefore be a competitive handicap."

Digby Anderson, director of the Social Affairs Unit, said that the rich and poor were better described as the reasonbably affluent and the extremely affluent. David Green, director of health and welfare at the Institute of Economic Affairs, said: "It doesn't matter about the gap between rich and poor so long as the bottom of the income range is not too low. I don't think it is. The main message of the report is: it pays to work."

Leading article, page 17

Public pay rises 'prove inequality'

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

POTENTIAL pay rises of £30,000 for senior civil servants were proof of increasing inequality in Britain, Labour said yesterday. Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, launching a campaign against the "privileged elite", said that the Conservatives had widened divisions by allowing spiralling pay rises to the biggest earners while the poorest suffered.

This week's announcement that Whitehall permanent secretaries could increase their maximum salaries from £118,000 to £150,000 provoked anger among 1.3 million public sector workers awarded rises of up to 3.2 per cent. Labour has pledged to make the issue of pay and inequality a focal point of its campaign up to the next general election, claiming that ministers have ignored the economic and social costs of widening discrepancies in earnings.

Mr Brown said that this week's public sector pay announcements had continued the rise in inequality, which had reached its highest post-war levels. "The benefits to an elite, including huge salary rises at the top, have been at the expense of the rest of us."

Mr Brown said inequality had increased costs for the vast majority of taxpayers. He also derided Tory claims that the "trickle-down effect" would ensure wealth passed down. "The truth is that everyone is worse off as a result of greater poverty and inequality and, while the very wealthy can insulate themselves from these effects, the vast majority of hard-working families cannot," he told the National Local Government Forum Against Poverty, in Edinburgh.

Mr Brown said that this week's Rowntree report pointed to a widening gap between the richest and poorest in Britain. He decried the Thatcherite "dogma that a rising tide lifts all boats" and said the report "exposes the reality that millions have seen their living standards sink over the past 15 years".

Leading article, page 17



KEVIN COOMBS

John Major at a youth project in Oxford yesterday

Major fails to quell Cabinet feuding

Continued from page 1

volunteered to the BBC, suggested that it was Mr Clarke, rather than the Euro-sceptics, who were out of step with the Prime Minister, who many believe has become more wary of Brussels.

The Employment Secretary, who said last year that scrapping the pound "would mean giving up the government of the UK", also challenged Mr Clarke's suggestion that monetary union was primarily an economic judgment. "I would reiterate what the Prime Minister said on Tuesday," he said. "It is a constitutional issue."

The spectacle of the leaders of the rival Tory camps openly confronting each other provoked venomous interventions by their backbench supporters.

As the nine whipless Tories added their names to a broadly Euro-sceptic Commons motion on a single currency, taking the total to 107, Teresa Gorman, one of their number, said that Mr Clarke was "telling porkies when he said that a single currency did not mean a federal Europe". The Chancellor should fall into line and "button his lip" if he wanted to remain part of the Cabinet, she said.

The pro-European wing of the party regarded Mr Clarke's speech as a source of jubilation, however, with many Tories saying they were delighted that the Chancellor was not afraid to raise the European standard. Peter Temple-Morris, a leading figure on the centre-left and a close supporter of Mr Heseltine, launched an attack on Mr Portillo. "I am amazed that a junior Cabinet minister should deliberately raise this issue at a time when the Cabinet and the party have to stick together."

As the argument raged yesterday, it was clear that the Right and Left were seeking to make the Prime Minister their prisoner.

Downing Street officials said that while the Chancellor was focusing on the economic arguments, the Prime Minister had to look at the broader picture.

Denying a rift with his Chancellor, Mr Major said: "I think you should examine what the Chancellor said last night. He made it clear we are a long way away from the right economies for a single currency."



Minford: says report drew wrong conclusion

Air chief told to quit or be suspended

Continued from page 1

his present post until the end of April and will leave the RAF in July. He will receive no special financial compensation or redundancy. According to official figures, he will leave on a pension of about £44,000 a year and a one-off lump sum of three times that amount (£132,000) as an advance on his pension rights.

After making available a summary of the Masters report to MPs and publishing details of an internal audit of other official Service residences, Mr Soames announced that Haymes Garth was to be put for sale.

Haymes Garth, the 12-room house in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, which has been at the centre of an unprecedented controversy after £387,000 was spent on refurbishment, will be replaced by more "suitable" alternative accommodation.

Sir Sandy was neither at his headquarters at RAF Innsworth in Gloucestershire nor at his official home in Cheltenham. Defence sources said he was staying with friends over the weekend and would be back at work on Monday.

Mr Soames said the Masters report had called into question the judgment of a number of individuals which might "require action by the appropriate authorities".

Ministry of Defence sources said no decision had been taken but the others involved, a number of senior RAF officers and civil servants, may face disciplinary action.

However, Mr Soames said: "There are no findings of illegality or culpable impropriety, but failures of control imply individual failures in management and responsibility."

The Masters report which was not given to the MPs in full because the MoD said it was a confidential inquiry, said the controls over spending at Haymes Garth were "poor" and numerous variations were agreed to the original plan, "with the result that there was a significant overspend".

Mr Soames said that the audit of the other residences showed that the management of a majority of them was satisfactory but there were significant failures of control in a minority of cases, mostly in RAF commands.

The internal audit highlighted weakneses in control of spending at the official home of the commander-in-chief RAF Strike Command in High Wycombe. Sir Sandy's former official house at Rheindahlen in Germany when he was commander-in-chief RAF Germany 1991-1993, was also examined. The internal audit showed that a total of £302,000 was spent on the property between 1991 and 1993.

Errors of judgment, page 6
Simon Jenkins, page 16

NEWS IN BRIEF

Teachers threaten to strike on budget cuts

Schools could face a national teachers' strike if budget cuts lead to widespread redundancies and increased class sizes, Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said yesterday. He said children could be sent home on a rota basis where classes were considered too large to teach or the union might opt for local strikes.

The six teaching unions will meet next week to discuss a concerted campaign but none is likely to follow the NASUWT's hard line before the Easter round of conferences. Opposition to cuts in schools is likely to increase tomorrow when governors, parents and teachers from all over the country gather for a protest meeting.

Mackay rejects merger

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay, told magistrates last night that he would not force mergers between court areas as part of the current reform of the magistrates' courts service. But he warned that a "substantial reduction" in the present numbers would be needed. He told the Worcestershire Magistrates' Association that he remained "fundamentally committed" to the local management of courts.

Meningitis outbreak

A four-year-old girl has died and two other children are in hospital after an outbreak of meningococcal meningitis in Cleveland. The girl died on Thursday after being admitted to South Cleveland hospital, Middlesbrough, earlier this week. The two other children, aged seven and eight months, are said to be improving at the same hospital. Doctors believe that two of the cases are linked.

Former judge jailed

A former judge who fraudulently obtained thousands of pounds in fees was jailed for six months yesterday. Over 16 months, Ernest Aragon, 68, of New Malden, Surrey, made bogus claims of more than £10,500 for 600 unprocessed immigration appeal cases. The former Kenyan High Court judge had denied four counts of obtaining property by deception and claimed he intended to complete the work.

Pools payouts at bookies

Pools winners could soon be able to collect prize money from betting shops, the Government announced yesterday. Nicholas Baker, a junior Home Office minister, told the Commons: "We have considered the representations from the pools promoters and the bookmakers to allow betting shops to pay out pools winnings. This would be in line with the bookmakers' normal business activity."

Pleasence cremated



Alan Bates, left, and Harold Pinter were among celebrities and friends at a service at Putney Vale Crematorium, southwest London, yesterday for Donald Pleasence, who died last week, aged 75, at his home near Nice. Flowers included a bouquet of yellow chrysanthemums in the shape of a champagne glass, with a card that read: "Daddy. See you in the bar!"

Travel chief jailed

The head of a travel company that collapsed leaving 40,000 holidaymakers stranded and owing £12 million has been jailed for nine months for fraud. Valere Tjolle, 50, of Frome, Somerset, chairman of Land Travel, of Bath, which specialised in cut-price coach tours, admitted two charges of fraudulent trading during the summer of 1992. The Trade Department is continuing an inquiry into the collapse.

Faxed to freedom

A prisoner has escaped from Norwich jail after an accomplice faxed forged bail documents to his governors. Warders thought the court bail papers were genuine and let David Aves, 36, of Elmswell, Suffolk, walk free. Details of his escape emerged yesterday, two days after police officers saw him driving near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.

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Police check for escaped psychiatric patients after grandmother is attacked on country lane walk

Farmer's wife has her throat cut in motiveless murder

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A FARMER'S wife was the victim of a motiveless killer who cut her throat as she walked in a quiet country lane less than 400 yards from where her husband and son were working in the fields, police said yesterday.

Margaret Wilson, 66, was attacked as she walked towards her home on the Yorkshire Wolds. Her husband Edwin and son Alan were working in nearby fields unaware of the attack by a man who stopped in a car, grabbed Mrs Wilson, slashed her throat and drove off.

Police are checking psychiatric hospitals for reports of escaped patients. They also launched an extensive computer search for the killer's white Montego estate car.

The attack happened on a lane linking the agricultural hamlets of Burton Fleming and Rudston in north Humberside on Thursday. David Southwell, a parish councillor said: "It's terrible. The reaction has been to lock all doors and windows. Everyone is upset."

Rosalea Wells, clerk to Burton Fleming parish council and Mrs Wilson's neighbour, said: "We are so shocked. Margaret was such a nice person. The whole village is in shock. It is normally such a quiet little place. No one had heard of Burton Fleming until this tragedy happened.

"The nearest police station is ten miles away. The last time there was any crime here in living memory was when the local post office was raided last autumn.

"I walk a lot myself. I went for a walk yesterday. It was purely fate I took a different road to Margaret otherwise it could have been me."

Detective Superintendent Tony Corrigan, who is leading the investigation, said: "It was a particularly savage and motiveless murder of a quiet, unassuming, pleasant old lady who enjoyed walking in the countryside. A motive cannot be understood. It is quite possible this person could strike again." Police are not sure if the killer was alone in the car.



Police searching the murder scene. The killer, who was driving a white Montego, pulled up to his victim, slashed her throat and drove off



Margaret Wilson: died yards from husband and son

Mr Corrigan said that Mrs Wilson had been dropped off by her daughter Heather to walk the two miles to her home in Burton Fleming. As she walked alone she passed two farm workers in a field.

Mr Corrigan said: "They saw a vehicle drive past her, stop, and a man get out and jog towards her. They saw a struggle taking place. She and the man fell to the ground out of sight. Then they saw the man get up, jog off and drive away towards Rudston."

The men jumped on a tractor and drove to the road where they found Mrs Wilson collapsed. A passing doctor and nurse confirmed that she was already dead. The two men then alerted her husband and son.

BURTON FLEMING

Her attacker is described as 6ft, white, with dark hair and an athletic build.

Heather Wilson, 39, said last night: "I didn't like her going out for walks on her own. Although this was her own territory — the area where she had lived and we as children were brought up — I had warned her not long ago that she could be attacked." She said that her mother replied: "What would anybody want with an old lady like me?"

Miss Wilson said that her mother had walked the country road hundreds of times and was close to a farm where she had lived. She said that her mother had lived for her family: "She asked for nothing in return. I think the crazy person who did this will do it again. My mother got killed because she just happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.'

Mrs Wilson was a popular figure in Burton Fleming. She and her husband had recently handed control of their farm to their son Alan, but still helped out.

Mrs Wilson assisted at the Darby and Joan Club and was active in the Methodist church. She and her twin sister, Elsie, were married to identical twins. She had four children, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Kathleen Raven, 80, the mother-in-law of Alan Wilson, heard of her death from her grand-daughter, Tracey, 22. "I thought she was acting daft then she told me her nan had been murdered and I just couldn't believe it."

Mrs Raven said she last saw Mrs Wilson, a close neighbour, that morning when she delivered her paper. "She was laughing and joking and stayed for about 15 minutes. She was a wonderful woman who had no enemies. We were great friends and she would do anything for me.

"I don't know what kind of person could have done this to her. It can't be someone from around here because everyone knew what a wonderful woman she was."

Hit man boasted about shooting victim in street

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

DONALD URQUHART, the millionaire businessman shot on a London street by a contract killer, was murdered for £20,000 on the orders of a business associate, police believe.

They suspect that Mr Urquhart was on the trail of a well-connected man whom he suspected had defrauded him in a deal worth millions of pounds. Yesterday, as the last of the gang involved in his murder was jailed at the Old Bailey, details were released of an unprecedented investigation into an underworld hit team. Until now a court order has prevented publication.

Last autumn Graeme West, a bankrupt roofer and "enforcer", was jailed for life for the shooting. Yesterday Geoffrey Heath, 36, from Maltby, South Yorkshire, who worked for West, admitted conspiracy to murder. After West, 33, from Thornton Heath, south London, was sentenced the judge banned any press reports of the case until Heath was dealt with.

Mr Urquhart was shot three times by a motorcyclist as he walked to dinner from his flat in Marylebone, west London, with Pat Iamspithone, his Thai girlfriend, in January 1993. Hours later his murderer could still not contain his exhilaration. Celebrating in a bar, West gleefully kept pinching a friend's arm and shouting: " I done it. I done it." He had finally climbed the ladder of south London's underworld from club bouncer, debt collecting and "clumping" — punishing people who failed to pay their bills — to contract killer.



West: exhilarated



Heath: reluctant

West could not stop boasting about his deed. As officers began investigations they were given a breakthrough. The man West had paid to buy the motorcyle for him was a police informer. When he discovered what the motocycle had been used for he talked to his police handler. Police began surveillance operations and tried to get an undercover officer into the group around West. He became cagey but a second breakthrough came when police arrested Andrew Karn, a former soldier and friend of West's. Under pressure he began talking and agreed to give evidence against West.

Police suspect that at least three men who have never been brought to court were involved in the killing, including a wealthy business associate of Mr Urquhart's who ordered the murder. A middle man in north London took up the contract and passed it on to a contact in south London. Each man may have taken a commission for helping to set up the attack.

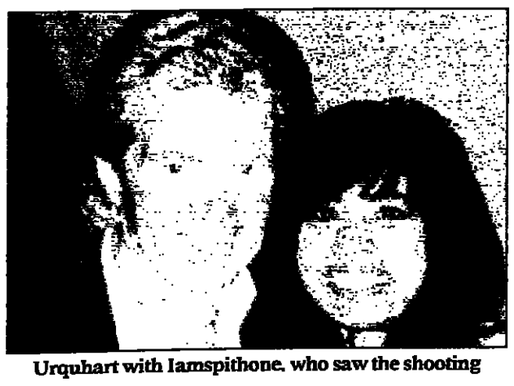
Detectives believe that if West had not been caught he could have carried out another killing. They suspect there were plans for West to kill Mr Urquhart's brother if he took over the dead man's business.

Mr Urquhart was an unconventional businessman from gypsy stock who often worked from the back of his stretch limousine. He started work as a hod carrier, then was a used-car dealer before launching into property deals which included Elstree Golf Club.

Yesterday, after Heath's conviction, Karn admitted firearms offences, wounding, armed robbery and assault. Judge Denison sentenced him to two years' imprisonment but Karn was immediately released because of the time he has been held. The judge said that if he had not had the courage to give evidence West would not have been convicted.

During West's trial the court was told that West cut up the revolver he used and burnt his clothing on Karn's patio. Police say Karn will be helped to create a new life under witness protection schemes.

Yesterday Ronald Thwaites, QC, for the defence, said Heath had been a "reluctant accomplice" and had wanted to leave the plot well before the murder. He tried to repay the £2,000 but had spent part of it and the rest was frozen as he had been made bankrupt.



Urquhart with Iamspithone, who saw the shooting

Damages for prison haircut

BY A STAFF REPORTER

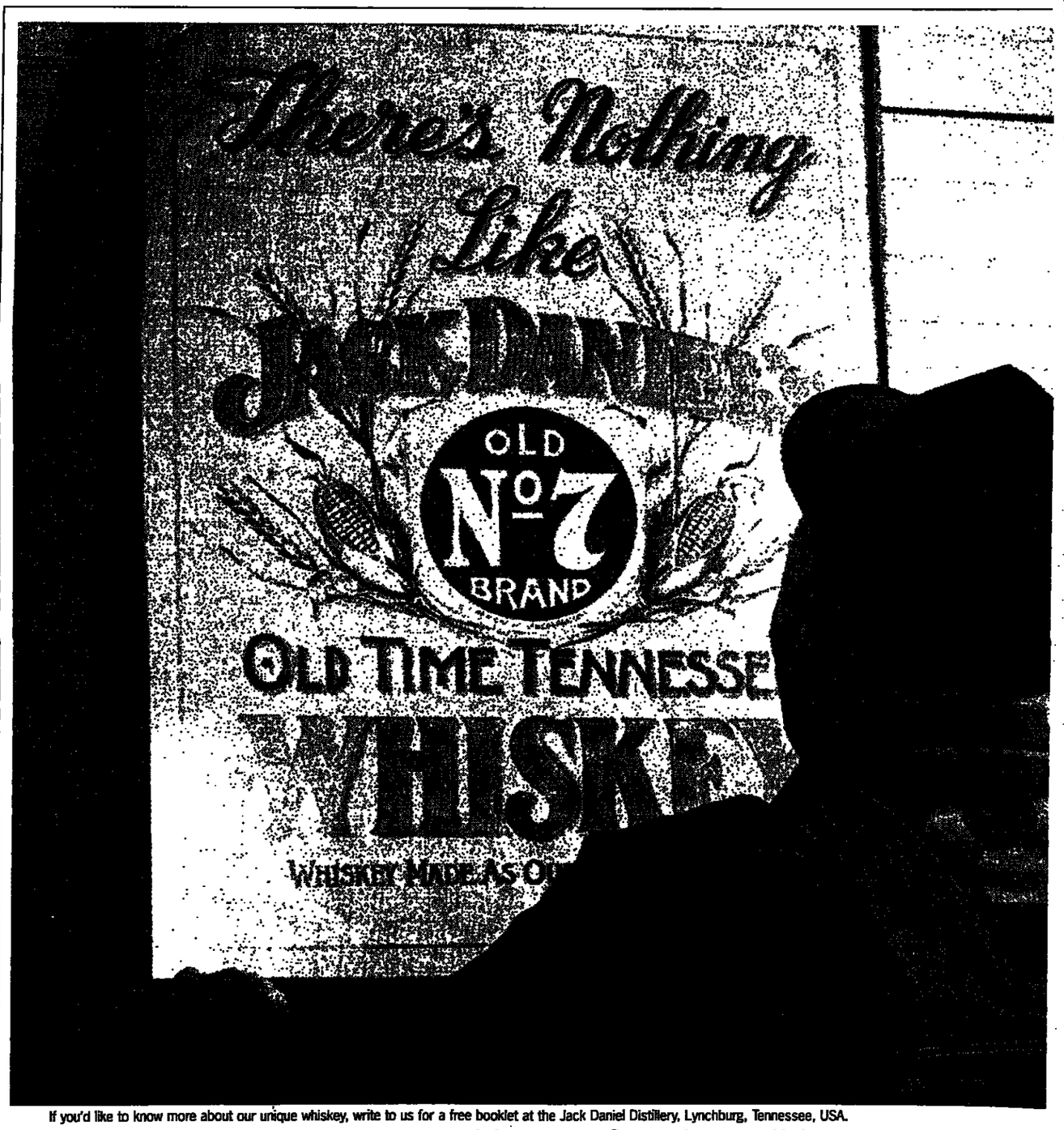
A MAN on remand who claimed that a prison haircut made him look like a convict and would jeopardise his reputation in court has successfully sued the jail.

Mark Barnsley was awarded damages by a judge who agreed that he had been given a shaven head against his wishes at the privately run jail in Doncaster. Mr Barnsley took action through the county court after a request for a trim to his hair and beard left him shorn and earned him the nickname "Baldman of Doncatraz". He said that the haircut made him look like a criminal. "It would have been very detrimental to my image. My hair took several months to grow back. Not only was I subjected to taunts from inmates but it was upsetting for my children when they saw me."

Judge Stocken held the hearing at the £90 million prison which opened last year. It stands on the site of an old power station between the river Don and a canal and has been dubbed "Doncatraz" by locals.

The judge ruled against Premier Prison Services, the American-owned company which runs the prison, and set damages at £100. Mr Barnsley had sought £1,000. She ordered that the company pay his costs.

Mr Barnsley, 33, of Netherthorpe, Sheffield, is on remand charged with wounding students at a pub in Sheffield last July.



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Thirty arrested as veal protesters clash with police

By Michael Horsnell

THIRTY people were arrested yesterday when more than 1,500 demonstrators blocked the road to Brightlingsea docks as the Essex port received its first consignment of veal calves during the four-week animal rights dispute.

The 350 police took two hours to force a half-mile passage through the crowd for six lorries carrying 120 calves and 2,400 sheep for export. The animals were loaded on to the Scandinavian transporter *MV Caroline* but were expected to remain on board for 48 hours after the authorities in Belgium, where the ship was due to sail, refused to accept them over the weekend.

Several people were treated for crush injuries as police cleared the narrow street to the docks. One woman was taken to hospital after an asthma attack and a man was treated for a head injury. An RSPCA inspector examined the animals, many of which appeared distressed after their journey, which began earlier this week in Ireland. Women and children wept during the controversial operation which is costing police up to £40,000 a day.

Protesters staged a sit-in up to 100 yards deep and blocked the road with half a dozen vehicles. After the consignment reached the docks an attempt was made to charge the heavy police lines at the gates but this was quickly repulsed.

Police, who had mud thrown at them when the consigment arrived in the town centre, were criticised for "heavy-handed" tactics. Their approach was to step over two ranks of sitting demonstrators at a time, lifting or pushing them back to officers waiting behind in a second rank. Some people were crushed beside parked cars as police made their tortuous progress through the crowd. After allowing demonstrators a ten-minute sit-down protest, police forced them back to allow the lorries, supported by a dozen vehicles with windshield screens, to inch forward.

The protesters made a human chain across the entrance to the docks, linking themselves with chains to a telegraph pole at one end and a road sign at the other. Police broke the chains with bolt-cutters. Cars blocking the road were bumped aside or towed away.

Maria Wilby, spokeswoman for BALE, the local protest group, said: "The police have gone right back to heavy-handed tactics. They just ploughed through regardless, and that was after they stopped people entering Brightlingsea to join the demonstration. Now they have got calves through for the first time, they will get them through every time."

Before the operation, police chiefs received a fax from colleagues in Nieuwpoort, near Ostend, informing them that the mayor of the Belgian port, where sympathy is growing for the Brightingless animal rights movement, would not allow the animals to be docked until Monday. Police informed Roger Mills, the Suffolk haulier organising the exports, but he insisted on going ahead. He was not available for comment. Ric Morgan, Mayor of Brightlingsea, protested against live animal exports through the town as reckless and damaging to local commerce.

In Shoreham, West Sussex, about 300 demonstrators clashed with police yesterday in a failed attempt to stop six lorries carrying calves and sheep from entering the port. The animals later left on a boat bound for Dieppe.

The port authority was forced to resume livestock shipments a week ago after a High Court ruling.

Credo, page 9

CHRIS HARRIS



More than 1,500 people sat down to block the road to Brightlingsea. Police took two hours to clear the way

NEXT WEEK IN THE TIMES

Win a Valentine's Day dinner for two in Paris and, in *Times Sport*, win a trip for two to the Irish Grand National, on **Monday**

How to take a friend to a concert for 20p, on **Tuesday**



The power of style and how to use it, in Fashion on **Wednesday**

The politically correct *Jungle Book*, and other new films, on **Thursday**

Bernard Levin, Valerie Grove and Caitlin Moran, on **Friday**

Discount scheme launched by Tesco

By Susan Gilchrist

TESCO yesterday announced the launch of a discount card scheme in an attempt to increase its share of sales among the supermarket giants.

The Tesco Clubcard goes nationwide on Monday after a successful trial at 14 stores over the past year. Clubcard customers will be able to accumulate points based on the amount they spend, which are then converted into money-off vouchers. Customers will also benefit from special promotions and invitations to in-store events such as food tastings.

The move was attacked yesterday by Sainsbury, Tesco's main rival, which dismissed it as ineffective and costly. A spokesman for the company claimed that the discounts offered by the card were inadequate and would fail to generate substantial sales increases. He estimated that the scheme would cost £55 million in its first year.

Sir Ian MacLaurin, Tesco chairman, said that the launch costs would be £5 million but the scheme was expected to break even this year and to be profitable thereafter.

Industry analysts predict that other supermarket chains will be forced to follow Tesco's lead. Sainsbury and Safeway are testing loyalty cards but said they had no plans to extend the schemes nationally.

Some observers believe that the real value of the Tesco clubcard will be in compiling detailed information on its customers' spending habits. One analyst said: "They will know everything — what their customers buy, how often they visit the store and how much they spend. In a market like this, that information is worth its weight in gold."

Fast food chain gets kicks over Route 66

By Jon Ashworth

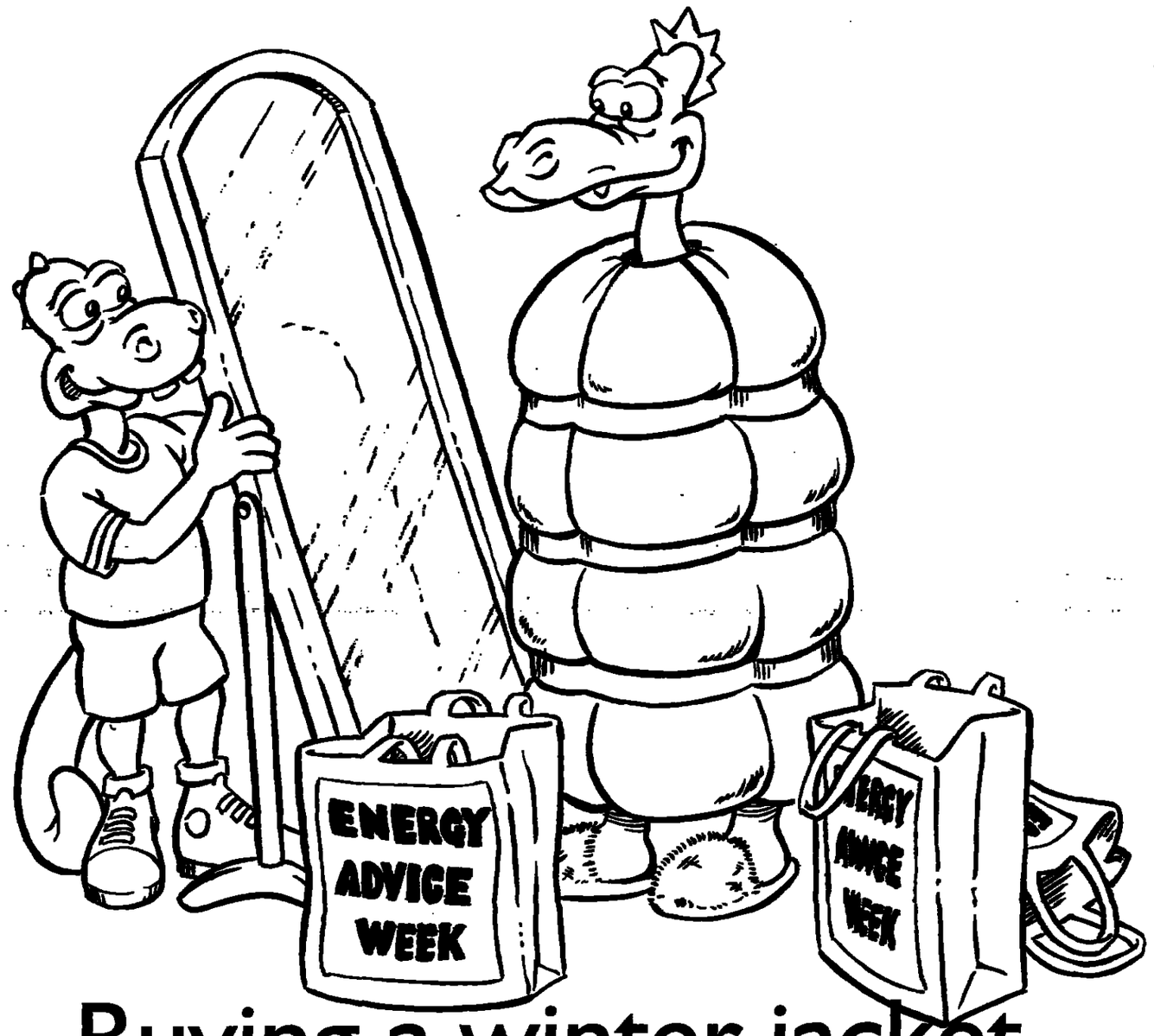
McDONALD'S Route 66 American-theme promotion looked likely to be run off the road yesterday. A writ was lodged in the High Court yesterday accusing the fast-food firm of infringing a registered trade mark. Andre and Mairade Levy, a husband and wife team who own the Route 66 trade mark, are seeking an injunction to prevent McDonald's Restaurants using the name, which is central to its new television and radio campaign.

The Route 66 promotion was launched last month at a reputed cost of £5 million. The words "Welcome to Route 66" are prominently displayed in McDonald's outlets. The Levys are seeking damages for infringement of a registered trade mark or a percentage of profits from the promotion. It is further seeking an order requiring McDonald's to remove or obliterate the infringing goods.

Mr Levy accused McDonald's of lifting an almost exact replica of their registered brand. A dispute with the Town & Country catering firm over use of the Route 66 name was settled in 1991.

Mr and Mrs Levy have been the registered owners of the Route 66 trade mark for catering services since 1991 and for non-alcoholic drinks and other drinks since 1990. They hope to use the name on a range of branded products, including cigarettes, beer and clothing. The statement of claim alleges that McDonald's has used these marks and continues to do so.

McDonald's said it is taking legal advice and expects to defend the proceedings vigorously. The promotion is scheduled to run until the end of next month.



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Fit an Energy Efficient Light Bulb
Cost: £10-15
Saving: £50

Thermostatic Radiator Valves
Cost: £45-75
Annual Saving: £10-20

For more cost-saving ideas, plus details of your Local Energy Advice Centre, phone at local rates, **0345 86 86 86,** or send this coupon to:

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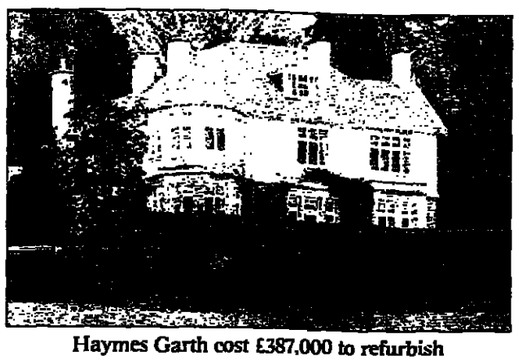
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Counting the cost of the six most expensive official residences



Haymes Garth cost £387,000 to refurbish

ELEVEN of the 78 official residences in the United Kingdom and abroad were investigated in a separate internal audit on the annual costs of maintenance. These are the six that cost the most:

☐ Bois de Mai, the Brussels home of Field Marshal Sir Richard Vincent, chairman of Nato's Military Committee, bought for £2.2 million, cost £231,000 in 1992, £505,000 in 1993 and £31,000 in 1994.

☐ 6 Bradenham Beeches, High Wycombe, temporary home of commander-in-chief Strike Command, cost £7,000 to maintain in 1992, £6,000 in 1993 and £494,000 in 1994 (because of conversion work).

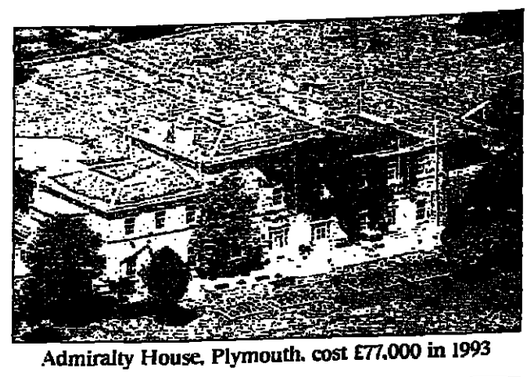
☐ Mountbatten House, Portsmouth, home of Commandant General Royal Marines, cost £68,000 in 1992, £71,000 in 1993 and £212,000 in 1994.

☐ McKee House, RAF Benson, home of Air Officer Commanding No 1 Group — cost £270,000 in 1993. Figures for the other two years are not available.

☐ Admiralty House, Plymouth, home of Flag Officer, Plymouth, cost £139,000 in 1992, £77,000 in 1993.

☐ Springfield Lodge, High Wycombe, residence of commander-in-chief, RAF Strike Command, cost £63,000 in 1992, £88,000 in 1993 and £26,000 in 1994.

☐ Air House at Rheindahlen, Germany, home of commander-in-chief RAF Germany, cost £13,000 in 1993. In 1991, when Sir Sandy Wilson was the commander-in-chief RAF Germany, £205,000 was spent.



Admiralty House, Plymouth, cost £77,000 in 1993

Error of judgment that ended air chief's career

■ Michael Evans describes how additional spending on the official RAF residence Haymes Garth coincided with defence cuts

EVEN his best friends admit that Air Chief Marshal Sir Sandy Wilson has been his own worst enemy. He has always been extremely ambitious, thrusting and often arrogant on his way up to one of the top jobs in the RAF.

However, those who know him well are convinced he has been ousted from his £95,000 job because of a "dirty tricks" campaign in the Ministry of Defence. He has made many enemies, some of whom, they say, have been spreading stories about his supposed personal involvement in the overspending "scandal" at Haymes Garth, his official residence near Cheltenham which was upgraded at a cost of £387,000 from a two-star house to one suitable for a four-star air chief marshal.

Haymes Garth was in poor condition when the late Air Chief Marshal Sir John Thomson, then commander-in-chief of RAF Support Command, decided in 1992 that it should be renovated to become the official residence for the holder of a new RAF command which amalgamated personnel and training. Sir Sandy was the man appointed to that post which put him in charge of a budget of £880 million. A former RAF resident of Haymes Garth said that the east wing was propped up with girders.

Stories began to circulate of lavish spending at the house and allegations that Sir Sandy leant on his staff to get Haymes Garth refurbished according to his personal tastes and the demands of his wife Mary. Sir Sandy's RAF superiors dismissed the smears being put about and said he was not personally responsible for authorising and monitoring the expenditure.

However, he had used his influence to ensure that the house was refurbished in a traditional style, with extra interior demolition work to provide more space for entertaining visitors. The additional work — and the £33,000 spent on curtains and £12,000 on carpets — was seen as a serious lack of judgment, especially since the extra spending coincided with cuts announced by the Ministry of Defence. The timing was fatal for Sir Sandy and perfect ammunition for his enemies.



Sir John: authorised initial refurbishment

Sir Sandy wanted to become the next Chief of the Air Staff to succeed Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon. There was only one serious rival, Sir John Thomson, who had moved from Support Command to take over RAF Strike Command at High Wycombe in Buckinghamshire.

Sir John was a much quieter man and had many supporters for the top job. When Sir Sandy was facing all the flak about overspending on Haymes Garth, there was no mention of the fact that it was Sir John who had authorised the initial refurbishment, then to cost £250,000.

When Sir John died suddenly of a heart attack, Sir Sandy inevitably became, at least in his supporters' eyes, the man next in line to become Chief of the Air Staff. In such a role, he would undoubtedly have taken a strong and vociferous position on any future RAF cuts.

But he did not have enough friends in high places prepared to back him when Haymes Garth became a national issue. Sir Sandy had reached one of the most senior jobs in the RAF after a career which began in 1962. The initials of his Christian names, RAF — standing for Ronald Andrew Fellowes — were seen as an indication of where his destiny lay.

Sir Sandy, now 53 and with a daughter, stepdaughter and stepson, followed a classic RAF career path.

Commissioned in 1962, he became a fighter pilot, flying Hunter and Phantom jets. He saw service in the Falklands after the ending of hostilities, holding the posts of Air Commander Headquarters of the British Forces as well as Station Commander of RAF Stanley.

Staff jobs at the MoD followed until his promotion to Air Vice-Marshal in 1987. In August 1990 he took initial charge of the British forces taking part in Operation Granby in the build-up to the Gulf War. He was succeeded in December that year by General Sir Peter de la Billière, but remained second in command.

Sir Sandy was promoted to commander-in-chief RAF Germany and then moved to Haymes Garth as head of the RAF's Personnel and Training Command and Air Member for Personnel on the RAF Board.

Rifkind's ultimatum, page 1
Simon Jenkins and Diary, page 16



Sir Sandy's brash manner won him rapid promotion but made enemies too

£33,000 on curtains is a fair price, say designers

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

THE £33,000 spent on curtains for Haymes Garth, Sir Sandy Wilson's official residence in Cheltenham, was not extravagant given the size of the Edwardian house, according to interior designers.

The house, valued by estate agents at about £500,000, has 12 rooms with 20 large windows, four of which are bay windows. Jane Churchill, a leading interior designer, said that for a house of that size and character, money spent on curtains could be seen as an investment.

She said that spending £33,000 for curtains "doesn't sound at all absurd to me, bearing in mind that they will probably last a long time, and that the house will entertain a lot of distinguished people. If you do it on the cheap it's going to look cheap."

"An official of Sir Sandy's standing shouldn't have to just hang up any old muslin curtains. Just because it's a government building doesn't mean it should be dull."

Jessica Hayns, the decoration editor of *World of Interiors*, said that the figure quoted could be on the cautious side. "Decent fabric can cost anything from £40 to £400 a metre, and £33,000 wouldn't actually get you the best money can buy — far from it. Perhaps the extravagance was doing the house all in one go."

Her view was echoed by the spokesman of a large London-based interior design firm. "This is not at all a shocking quote if you are using decent fabrics," he said. "And bearing in mind that the house was probably furnished in character, you would need to buy all the trimmings such as tiebacks and pelmets."

Staff at John Lewis thought they could do the job for less. "Obviously a lot depends on the fabric, linings and extra, but we think we could probably do a very good job for between £15,000 and £20,000," a spokesman said.

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Glenfiddich Malt Whisky	£27.30	£16.75	£9.75
Superkings 200	£22.80	£13.99	£6.50
Superkings Lights 200	£22.80	£13.99	£6.50
OTHER OFFERS			OFFER PRICE
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Police search Lord Brocket's country estate after four-year hunt for stolen Ferraris

Peer arrested over theft of classic cars worth £4m

BY ANDREW PIERCE

LORD BROCKET, a close friend of the Prince of Wales, has been arrested after a four-year investigation into the theft of four classic cars, worth £4.5 million, from the peer's estate.

Detectives searched Brocket Hall, the Old Etonian peer's 18th-century home in Hertfordshire, set in 5,000 acres, on Thursday. Lord Brocket, 42, was arrested and taken for questioning. Three other men were also arrested.

The investigation centred on the theft in May 1991 of three Ferraris, a Maserati and four classic car engines, worth £4.5 million, from a renovated stable block at the imposing hall, which has its own private airstrip.

The police reported that a gang drove a transporter van through electronically locked gates at the estate and removed the cars from an alarmed showroom. The cars have never been recovered. The theft of the cars, which had been reinsured by Lord Brocket a few weeks earlier, was likened by car experts to stealing Picassos. Lord Brocket, whose £20 million car collection includes 40 Ferraris, said at the time: "I am left looking like an idiot." He said he had agreed the sale of the 1955 Ferrari to a Japanese client for £450,000.

For years Lord Brocket and his glamorous American-born wife, Isabell Lorenzo, were one of the golden couples of the high society circuit. They met when the former *Vogue* cover-girl was on a modelling assignment at the hall in 1978. Their 12-year marriage ended in divorce in December. They have three children including Alexander, 10, the heir to the title.

Earlier this week Lady Brocket, 34, was reported to have attempted suicide for the second time in a year.

The couple's glamorous lifestyle could have come straight from the pages of *Hello!* magazine. Lord Brocket, a polo-playing friend of the Prince of Wales, is descended from one of England's oldest families which can trace its lineage back to the 5th century. The family motto is *The Cat Stroked is Meek*. Lord Brocket's grandfather started the family on its aristocratic ascent by buying a baronetcy in 1921 for the equivalent of £500,000. He also bought Brocket Hall, the home of the Victorian Prime Ministers Palmerston and Melbourne. It was in Brocket Hall that Lady Caroline Lamb, the one-time lover of Lord Byron, had herself served naked from a soup tureen before the startled Melbourne and his Cabinet.

Lord Brocket, the third baron, was born in 1952 and inherited the title in 1967. After schooling at Eton he joined the Army, serving as an officer in the 14th/20th King's Hussars.

He then had the inspired decision to turn the hall into a conference centre. It put him on first-name terms with captains of industry, the City and political leaders from all over the world. Margaret Thatcher met Presidents Gorbachev, Reagan and Bush in the gilded hall at Brocket. John Major has presided over countless EC summits there and machine gunners are situated on the four corners of the roof when the EC roadshow is in town.

Some of Britain's leading businessmen hold seminars in Brocket's incomparable Chippendale library. The sequel to *Gone with the Wind*, starring Joanne Whalley-Kilmer, was filmed at the house in 1994. Lord and Lady Brocket were always there to greet their guests with trays of champagne and caviar.

Hiring the James Paine-designed building, complete with 48 bedrooms, 30 bathrooms and private golf course, costs up to £25,000 a day. Lord Brocket moved out of the hall because he was losing £60,000 a day in revenue to potential guests. The family moved into the redbrick Georgian laundry several hundred yards from the main house, which is called Watershyppes, the title of the estate in the 13th century.

The last set of filed accounts for the Brocket Collection show a £5 million overdraft and a £1 million bank loan.


JAMES MORGAN

Lord and Lady Brocket with two of his 40 Ferraris. The couple divorced in 1994

Battlefields notch up historic victory

BY JOHN YOUNG

TWO more historic English battlefields, Shrewsbury in Shropshire and Chalgrove in Oxfordshire, are to be added to the 41 in English Heritage's forthcoming register.

The battle of Shrewsbury was fought in 1403 between Henry IV's army commanded by Prince Henry — later Henry V, the victor of Agincourt — and a rebel force raised by the Earl of Northumberland. It ended in defeat for the rebels and the loss of between 6,000 and 7,000 lives.

English Heritage had excluded the battlefield because its boundaries could not be accurately defined. Only after lobbying by Robert Hardy, the actor, did it change its mind.

The 1643 Civil War battle of Chalgrove was excluded because it was rated a mere skirmish and did not last at least an hour, involve more than 1,000 men and cost at least 100 casualties. However, the John Hampden Society said it was far more than just a skirmish. The Royalist army numbered 1,800 men and 1,000 horses and, had Hampden not been killed, the history of the Civil War might have been different.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer South — **Love all. IMPs**

	♠AQ104 ♥Q6 ♦AQ2 ♣AJ104	
♠96 ♥AK1053 ♦K8 ♣K982	N W E S	♠KJ8732 ♥9872 ♦J9 ♣6
	♠5 ♥J4 ♦1076543 ♣Q753	

W	N	E	S
—	—	—	Pass
1♥ (1)	Dble	3♥ (2)	4♦
Pass	5♦	All pass	

Contract: Five diamonds by South. Opening lead: ace of hearts
(1) Showing at least five (2) Pre-emptive

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Bridge is a game that is notoriously difficult to play with one's spouse. It is not clear why this is but a quick look around any bridge tournament will see many married couples bickering away. However, there are always exceptions. One of the most successful married partnerships are Peter and Dorthe Schaltz of Denmark. They were part of the Danish team that were runners-up in the 1993 European Championship and went on to represent Europe in the World Championships.

On this deal Peter's aggressive bidding as South led to the rocky game. West cashed the ace and king of hearts and switched to the nine of spades. Declarer won with the ace, ruffed a spade, played a diamond to the queen and cashed the ace of diamonds. When this drew all the trumps he was in with a chance. He ruffed a spade back to hand and West discarded a heart.

West's distribution was now known — he had five hearts, two spades, two diamonds and therefore four clubs. As long as East's singleton was not the king or the two declarer was home. He played the queen of clubs, covered by the king, ace and ... six from East. Now declarer ruffed another spade and played his three of clubs. When West played the two declarer finessed dummy's four to make the contract.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Karpov strikes back

In round four of the FIDE semi-finals at Sanghi Nagar, India, Anatoly Karpov struck back to win against Gelfand, levelling the scores at two points each.

Meanwhile, game four between Salov and Kansky has been adjourned in a position that will be drawn with Kansky preserving his two-point lead.

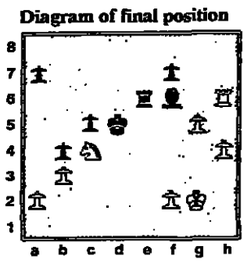
Karpov, the reigning FIDE champion, possesses a superb intuitive feel for the shifting value of the pieces. In this game against Gelfand he subtly demonstrates that, under certain circumstances, a bishop can be worth more than a rook.

White: Karpov
Black: Gelfand
Linares 1993

Queen's Gambit Accepted

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nf3	d5
4	Nc3	dxc4
5	Qa4+	c6
6	Qxc4	b5
7	Qd3	Bb7
8	e4	b4
9	Na4	Nbd7
10	Bg5	Qa5
11	b3	c5
12	Bxf6	gxf6
13	Be2	0-0-0
14	0-0	Kb8
15	d5	Nb6
16	Nxb6	Qxb6
17	Rad1	Bh6
18	Qc4	Rd6
19	dxe6	fxe6
20	Rd5	Rhe8
21	Bd3	Rd8
22	Rd1	Red6
23	Be2	Bxd5
24	exd5	Qb7
25	Qh4	Bf8
26	Bc4	Rxd5
27	Bxd5	Rxd5
28	Re1	Rd8
29	Qxf6	Qc7
30	g3	Bd6
31	Ng5	Rd7
32	Re8+	Kb7
33	Ne4	Qc6
34	Qf5	Be7
35	Kg2	Rc7
36	Rh8	Qg6
37	Qd5+	Qc6
38	Qxc6+	Kxc6
39	Rxh7	Kd5
40	Nd2	Bf6
41	Nc4	Kd4
42	Rh6	Rc6
43	g4	Re6
44	h4	Kd5
45	g5	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Refresher course

For those new to chess it is worth a reminder that a material advantage normally decides the game. A queen is worth 9 points, a rook 5, bishop and knight 3 and the pawns one each. The king is priceless, for when it is checkmated the game ends.

Winning Move, Weekend, page 27

Value for money? That's the last thing on our list.

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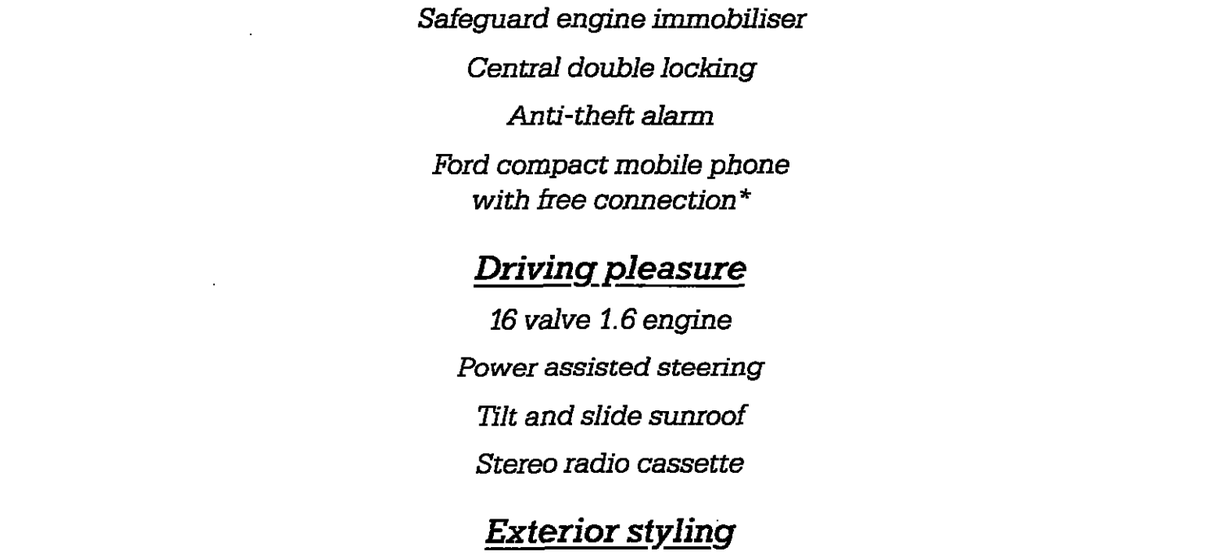
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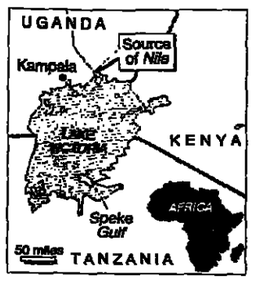
Intrigue, jealousy and tragedy lay behind great geographical discovery of the Victorian age

Explorer's plaque reveals tale of rivalry on the Nile

By Alan Hamilton

VISITORS to Kensington Gardens in London will be familiar enough with the story behind its best-known statue, that of Peter Pan. They may be less aware that behind the nearby obelisk to the memory of John Hanning Speke lurks a tale of intrigue, jealousy and ultimate tragedy.

That omission is about to be put right. Speke is to acquire a bronze plaque on his red granite plinth acknowledging that he was one of the two protagonists in a great geographical rivalry of the Victorian age: who should take the credit for discovering the source of the Nile? While Speke took the honours, his fellow explorer Sir Richard Burton took severe umbrage.



The new inscription, replacing the baldly uninformative legend that the monument has borne since it was erected in 1866 two years after Speke's death, will be unveiled on May 4, the 168th anniversary of his birth. It is the inspiration of the Friends of Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens, a voluntary body set up in 1991 with the support of the Royal Parks Agency, the garden's owner, to make modest improvements to the park.

Barbara Abensur, chairman of the Friends, said yesterday: "It seemed to us that there were a number of statues and monuments in the park without any explanation. To anyone who does not know the name of Speke, his monument is at present virtually meaningless."

Speke and Burton were on an expedition to solve one of the great mysteries of Africa in 1857. Together they discovered Lake Tanganyika, but Burton then decided to rest — a serious tactical error — while Speke went off on his own to discover Lake Victoria and the mighty river that flowed from it. Speke made it back to London first and staked his claim to immortality, without emphasising too strongly that he had been a member of Burton's expedition.

A furious Burton dismissed Speke's claim, saying that the alleged discovery was quite unproven. Speke returned to Africa in 1860 accompanied by the explorer James Grant to confirm his findings, and famously cabled the Royal Geographical Society from Cairo in 1862, having walked the 4,187-mile length of the river: "The Nile is settled."

Dr Andrew Tatham, keeper of the Royal Geographical Society, said yesterday: "The source of the Nile was a major matter for 19th century geographers. There was, to say the least, a certain amount of controversy at the time as to the respective roles of the two men. The Speke family were keen that Burton should receive no credit at all for the discovery, which is why the original plaque on the obelisk is so uninformative."

The new inscription will acknowledge that Speke "was the first European, in conjunction with Richard Burton in 1857 and later James Grant in 1862, to discover Lake Victoria as the source of the Nile".

It will record, too, the manner of Speke's death. The two men were to engage in a public debate of the British Association in Bath on September 15, 1864 to argue their respective claims to fame. That morning, Speke, having endured all the privations that Africa could throw at him, accidentally shot himself while out hunting partridge and died instantly.

His memorial was raised by public subscription after an appeal by Sir Roderick Murchison, president of the Royal Geographical Society, in *The Times*. Speke's obelisk was designed by Philip Hardwick, RA, whose most famous creation was the Doric Arch at the old Euston station.

Burton's memorial is much less grand: a bust within the society's headquarters at Kensington Gore.







MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY

Speke, top left, returned to Africa with Grant to confirm his findings, right, after his original claim was disputed by Burton, below left

THE SOURCE OF THE NILE.

The members of the Royal Institution held a special meeting last night, to hear a lecture delivered by Captain Speke on the discovery of the source of the Nile. The lecture was honoured by the presence of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who was attended by General Knollys, Sir Roderick Murchison, and a numerous suite. The Prince was accompanied by the Comte de Paris and several other members of the late Royal family of France.

Before commencing his lecture Captain Speke introduced

How The Times reported Speke's discovery

Charities for children and homeless head queue for lottery handouts

By Kathryn Knight

CHARITIES dealing with children, health, the homeless and the unemployed are likely to head the queue for National Lottery money.

Absent from the list of initiatives earmarked for money at a meeting yesterday to launch the National Lottery Charities Board's guidelines for grant distribution were environment groups, animal welfare and medical research charities. However, the board promised to pay equal attention to large and small charities, and invited voluntary groups to comment on its plans.

The Hon David Sieff, board chairman and director of Marks and Spencer, said that the board intended to help those at greatest disadvantage. He emphasised that charities involved in political activities would not be supported. "We hope that, through giving grants, we will make an impact on the lives of people suffering poverty, disadvantage and discrimination," he said. "We aim to help prevent the emergence of new social problems, tackle causes of existing problems and address the needs they create."

Organisations concerned with women's issues, ethnic and cultural minorities and other groups affected by discrimination would also be regarded sympathetically, he said. The board, which will begin inviting applications by June, said that it will consult widely before making final decisions on distribution. Mr Sieff said: "Inevitably there will be many demands on the board's funds and we will have to make decisions about which causes should receive higher or lower priority."

Stuart Etherington, chief executive of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, said: "The board will be swamped with applications and won't be able to satisfy everyone. It is so hard to prioritise because all charities say they are in need of money, and charities are also experts in applying for grants. The board may find that it comes under pressure to rethink its strategy."

Lottery organisers hope to give £9 billion to good causes over the next seven years. Hundreds of groups have requested help from the four other distributing bodies. The Arts Council has received 50 applications for £146 million available for distribution, the Millennium Fund has had 200 applications, the National Heritage Memorial Fund has received 70 applications for £50 million and the Sports Council has had 272 applications for a share of £70 million.

Fire engines used to go shopping

By Paul Wilkinson

FIRE CREWS in Newcastle upon Tyne are taking their engines on supermarket shopping runs because their canteen staff have been sacked to save money. While firefighters race round the aisles picking up a week's groceries, colleagues wait outside in case an emergency call comes in.

Doug Henderson, Labour MP for Newcastle North, has demanded an explanation from Tyne and Wear fire chiefs. He said: "This is completely ridiculous. The shoppers who see this must wonder what is happening to our fire service."

Special constables deterred by attitude of regular police

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

A FIFTH of Britain's 20,000 special constables resign each year, many because of the attitudes of friends and regular officers, according to a Home Office report yesterday.

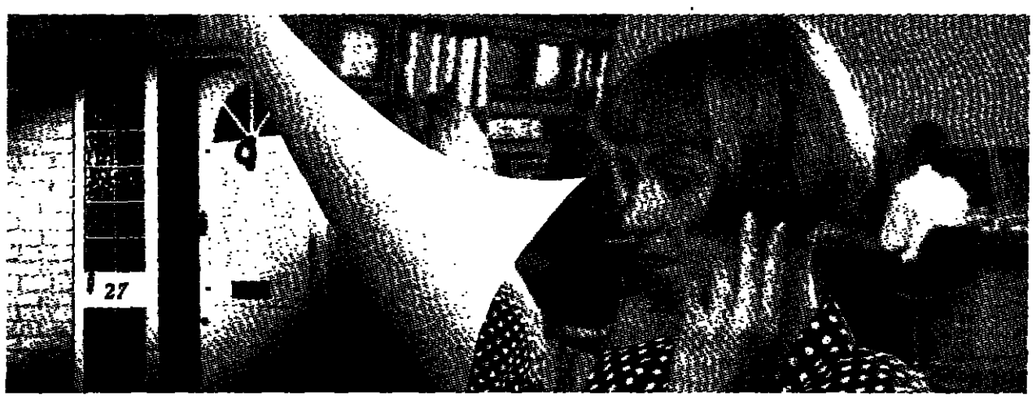
Many specials, who work unpaid in evenings and weekends, complained about the way they were treated by officers, who, they said, needed to be trained to work alongside them. Others said that they had been criticised by friends. A significant number said that they kept their membership secret.

The research, among more than 800 specials in London and Dorset, comes as the Government considers paying an allowance to volunteers. The Home Office has launched a drive to push numbers up to 30,000. Last month a Hampshire teacher working as special was instrumental in the capture of three prisoners who escaped from Parkhurst Prison on the Isle of Wight.

The recruitment drive has been successful, but the report highlights the need to do more to retain officers, who are increasingly used to relieve the pressure on regular police. The retention is high for a voluntary organisation, despite the turnover. Average service is more than four years.

However, the report said that wastage should be reduced and called for better treatment and use of specials. Many needed to be made to feel valued and the Home Office should consider methods of allowing specials to rejoin after resigning when they move home.

Many joined because they were interested in joining the police full-time. The specials attracted more women and recruits from ethnic minorities than the regular police. In Dorset in 1991 49 per cent of specials were women.



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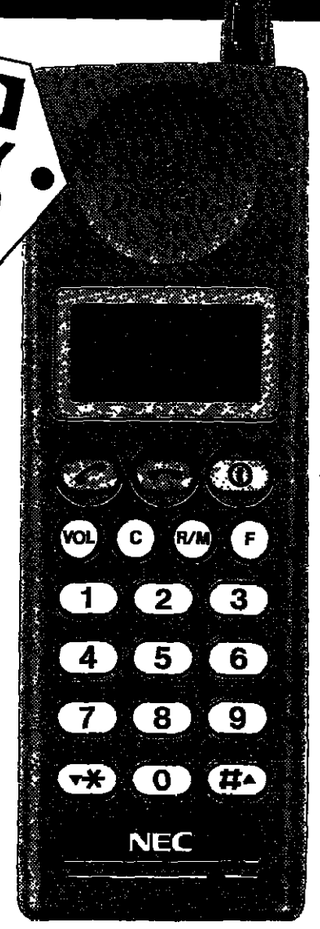
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Claiming animal 'rights' devalues cases of basic human need

Credo

John Habgood

One of the first tasks of any pressure group is to capture the language, thereby forcing its opponents constantly to acknowledge the group's concerns. The use of the phrase "animal rights" is a case in point. I fully share the concern of those who have coined it, that animals should be treated with respect and spared unnecessary suffering. But the phrase itself should be resisted.

To claim a "right" may be to do no more than to assert a strong moral demand. But this is not the way the word is usually understood. Human rights seem to refer to some inherent quality or value in human life which demands recognition, is backed by international agreements, and defines a boundary in the treatment of our fellow human beings that should not be crossed. Rights entail corresponding responsibilities, and both words imply the existence of a moral community within which there is some degree of shared recognition of the balance between them. Rights are most characteristically invoked as a means of protection against an oppressive state, the implication being that the moral community is wider than the individual state.

As presumed "rights" have multiplied, the mutuality between rights and responsibilities has diminished, and "rights" are proclaimed for which nobody is, or could be, responsible. In fact they begin to look more like political ideals and less like inherently necessary conditions for a truly human life. One consequence of this gradual devaluation of the concept is to make it less effective in those extreme circumstances where it is really needed. The right not to be tortured, for instance, should be regarded as absolute, and not to be weakened by considerations of supposed political necessity. Against this background "animal rights" seem highly dubious. Human beings unquestionably have a moral responsibility towards animals, but they do not form part of the same moral community with us; indeed they do not form part of any moral community, since they do not and cannot exercise any moral responsibility. Animals make a claim on us as sentient beings who need space and scope to live their own lives and to be spared suffering.

The claim is more strongly felt when their lives are closely entwined with our own, and when it is clear that they can suffer pain and distress. But although pet owners frequently use moral language about their pets — "good dog, lazy cat" — few would imagine that they are actually moral beings. They cannot, therefore, have any rights towards each other. Nor is it clear how, say, the rights to life and to be spared unnecessary suffering can have any meaning for wild animals outside a human context, except in terms of some general obligation on human beings to preserve the natural environment.

These are only some of the complexities to which the notion of "animal rights" gives rise. To suppose that they are inherent in some value or quality in animal life as such poses the further sharp question, which animals? All, or only some? And if all, on what grounds do we designate some as vermin?

Talk of "rights" seems to imply an absoluteness that is unsustainable in theory, and dangerous in practice, in that it inflates moral claims to the point of inducing some protesters to disregard the legitimate claims of their fellow human beings. To talk instead about our responsibility towards sentient creatures places the moral imperative where it belongs, namely in ourselves, and also allows scope for negotiating some reasonable balance of responsibilities between one group and another.

☐ *Dr John Habgood is Archbishop of York*

At your Service, Weekend, page 2

Churchgoers give twice as much as parents did

By Dominic Kennedy

WORSHIPPERS each give twice as much in real terms to the Church of England as their counterparts a generation ago.

The average weekly contribution of between £2 and £3 still falls far short of the £5 which the Bishop of Chester recommended as appropriate for anyone who could afford tickets for a Football League match. The Bishop of Chester, the Rt Rev Michael Baughen, referring to the Church of England's financial crisis, provoked controversy when he said that too many people gave £1 a week or less when they could afford much more.

The Church Commissioners, who lost millions by investing heavily in property during the 1980s, announced this week that their biggest commercial asset, the Metro-Centre in Gateshead, was being sold to safeguard clergy stipends and pensions.

The Church carefully avoids recommending a weekly donation in case the rich treat it as a maximum and the poor feel stigmatised because they cannot afford it. An Anglican source said, however, that if every worshipper gave £5 a week, finances would be healthy. The average parish electoral roll member gives £2.17 weekly to the Church, according to the latest figures for 1992. In 1964, the weekly contribution was slightly more than two shillings, which would be worth about £1.05 in contemporary terms.

The increased generosity of worshippers has ensured that the total received by the Church has risen in real terms over the past three decades, despite smaller congregations. In 1964, £14,961 was donated, which at current prices is worth £146,957. In 1992, £164,854 was received.

The figures take into account church collections, boxes and covenants. Covenanted giving has increased greatly from the equivalent of £20,755 (actual figure £2,113) in 1964 to £86,617 in 1992. The weekly average donated by covenant is £4.14.

Giving varies widely according to diocese. Londoners contribute an average of £4.30 a week. Among those who contribute least are worshippers in Lincoln (£1.33), Truro (£1.48), Hereford (£1.50) and Sodor and Man (£1.50).

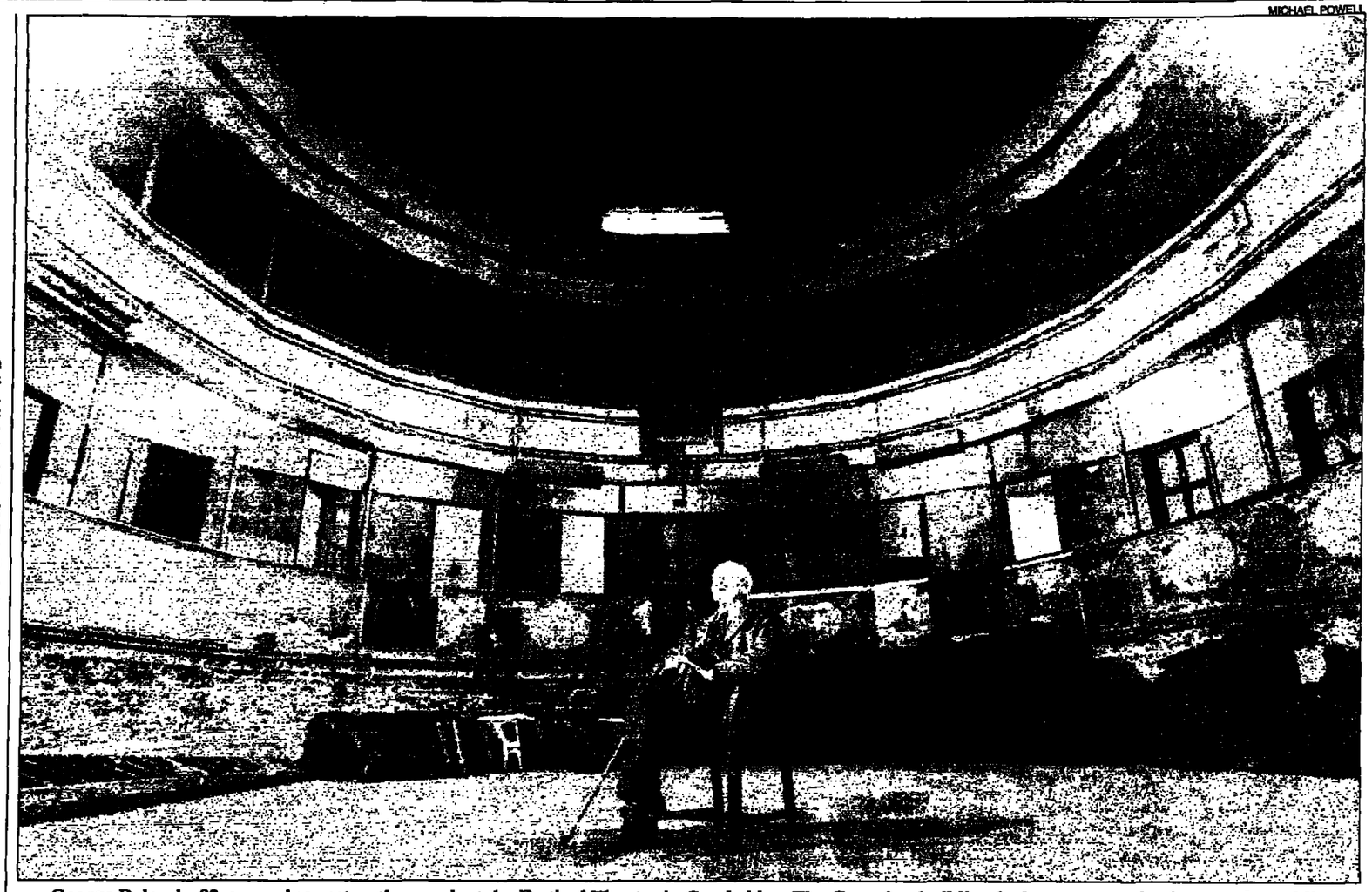
The Church says giving remains "very modest" and warns that substantial increases will be required over the next few years to maintain a nationwide parochial ministry. Trends are encouraging. Giving rose 4 per cent faster than inflation in 1992. Planned, tax-efficient giving in particular rose by 7 per cent more than the cost of living.

Steve Jenkins, a spokesman for the Church of England, said: "What the Church recommends is that people give according to how much thanksgiving they feel they owe to God. Giving is all to do with saying thank you to God for his gifts."



Bishop Baughen: giving not high enough

MICHAEL POWELL



George Rylands, 92, surveying restoration work at the Festival Theatre in Cambridge. The Georgian building is due to reopen its doors to the public on March 10 with James Shirley's *The Lady of Pleasure*, 60 years to the day that Sir George directed Antony and Cleopatra at the same theatre

Chorister ousted over 'pagan' shop

By Bill Frost

AN ACCOMPLISHED singer and devout Christian has been expelled from a church choir because of the "New Age paraphernalia" she sells at her gift shop.

Kate Harper, 56, a soprano, has been told that her services will not be required for the traditional Palm Sunday concert at St Kenelm's in Clifton-on-Teme, Hereford and Worcester. Keith Jaffrey, the choirmaster, said the shop was not compatible with Christian worship.

Mrs Harper, who lives opposite the church, launched her business in Tenbury Wells four months ago. Among other items, she sells Tarot cards, Peruvian rain sticks and dowsing rods. She said: "If Keith came to me and said I'm not inviting you because you can't sing, I could understand it. But I'm not peddling pornography or casting spells on anybody.

"I've known him for 26 years and was flabbergasted — I was very upset and felt betrayed by a friend. My own Christianity is very simple. It's about being seen to practise what you preach."

Mr Jaffrey, a 55-year-old insurance underwriter, was unrepentant. "This is not about how good a person you are — it's a clash of beliefs," he said. "I felt the fact that she does this for a living now is incompatible with the fact that we are singing about somebody who said he was the only way."

The Rev Clifford Owen, rector of Clifton-on-Teme, Lower Sapey and the Shelsleys, has been asked to adjudicate in the dispute. "I may invite the bishop to step in," he said.

Oxford tries to curb new recruits to sexist club

By Ben Preston, Education Correspondent

THE United Oxford and Cambridge University Club faces a fresh threat as colleges attempt to switch off the supply of new members over its refusal to treat women equally.

The heads of Oxford colleges are expected to put pressure on the university's main graduate organisation to stop publishing advertisements for the club in Pall Mall, London. They want the Oxford Society, which has a membership of more than 40,000 former students, to stop helping the club to recruit graduates through its regular newsletters. Students are planning to demonstrate outside meetings in Oxford organised by the club this summer as part of its annual membership drive.

Sir Christopher Zeeland, principal of Hertford College, said: "We are a bit cheesed off with the Oxford Society for advertising the club. We think we may put a bit of pressure on them not to do so. Our women graduates are irritated and annoyed when they see advertisements for the club. We hope the society will no longer allow it to advertise."

A full-page advertisement in a recent issue of the newsletter boasts of the club's excellent catering facilities, magnificent library of more than 20,000 books and notable cellars. It says "applications for lady associate members are welcomed".

But the advertisement does not mention that women are forbidden full membership, use of the library, members' bar or the marble staircase. A spokesman for the Oxford Society refused to comment, saying: "This is an essentially private matter."

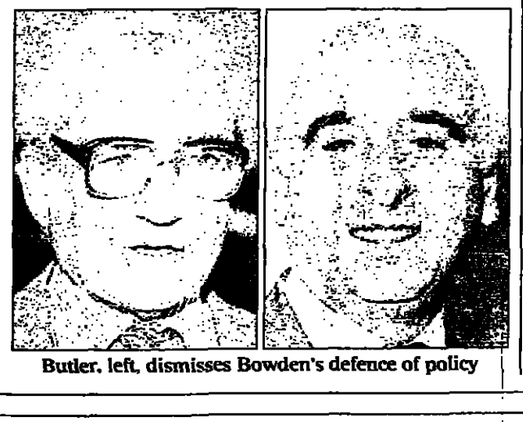
The move came as David Butler, the political scientist who triggered the furore by announcing his resignation in *The Times* last month, rejected the club's stance as "wholly negative". He dismissed a defence of the *status quo*, sent to members this week by the club chairman, Gerald Bowden, which suggested that "political correctness" lay behind the campaign for change.

Dr Butler, a fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford, criticised Mr Bowden's insistence that a ballot 18 months ago, rejecting the admission of women, was a "democratic decision" of members. He accused the club committee of "total insensitivity" to a three to one vote in favour of change.

"In fact, the vote was 76 per cent to 24 per cent to admit women as full members. This was recorded in an astonishingly high turnout (62 per cent)." He said that a new rule requiring half of all members to vote for change was achieved in 1992 with "well-organised proxy votes".

Mr Bowden, a former Tory MP, told members that letters from "lady associate" members since the controversy became public suggested that most were happy with the present arrangements.

Dr Butler responded that many were "just the wives and daughters" of club members and were not Oxbridge graduates: "They cannot speak for the women members of the university — and their supporters — who find this second-class status so distasteful."



Butler, left, dismisses Bowden's defence of policy

News in brief

Charter pair jailed

Paul Massey, 53, and Alan Curtis, 49, airline sales executives who claimed thousands of pounds in illicit commission from Britannia Airways, have been jailed for 18 months by Southwark Crown Court, south London. Henry Wolff, 69, a travel broker, was given a suspended sentence.

Drug alert

Lancashire Police have issued a warning after the deaths of a woman aged 19 and Mark Owen, 35, who are believed to have bought heroin from the same source in Blackpool.

Youths charged

Three teenagers were remanded in custody charged with murdering Richard Everitt, 15, who was stabbed to death at St Pancras, north London, last August.

Spinal cord first

Christopher Henley, 36, from Bradford, is the first person in Britain to receive a double spinal cord implant to relieve Raynaud's Disease, which causes frostbite-like symptoms.

Rendell honour

The crime writer Ruth Rendell is to receive an honorary doctorate of letters from the University of East Anglia in Norwich.

Marked down

Thieves stole 20 million 1920s German marks from a collector's home at Jarrow, Tyne and Wear. They have a face value of about 4p.

Airlines operate black market in take-off slots

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

A SECRET "black market" is operating between airlines seeking to gain additional take-off and landing slots at Heathrow and other congested airports throughout Europe, the Civil Aviation Authority claimed yesterday.

Under-the-counter deals, involving one airline paying another to hand over its valuable slots, have been going on for years as airlines jostle to fly at the most convenient and popular times. Although not formally outlawed, there is no legal basis for the deals. The authority says that the black market should be recognised and airlines should be forced to declare which slots they buy and how much they pay.

"Secondary trading involving money payments are both necessary to maintain and improve flexibility in the system and are probably also inevitable," it says in a report to be sent to the European Union. "Such trading should be made transparent but without injecting more procedures or additional bureaucracy. The revised EC regulations should require that, where money changes hands, airlines must register all exchanges together with the sum paid."

The authority's study of slot distribution proposes the creation of a pool of thousands of take-off and landing times which would then be allocated to airlines in sufficient numbers to enable them to mount a realistic competitive challenge on the most popular routes. Under EC regulations which came into force in 1993 and are due to be re-examined at the end of this year, larger airlines capable of operating sufficient services each day to mount a challenge to the existing operators are unable to obtain the slots.

Christopher Chataway, the authority chairman, said: "A central aim of the existing EC regulation concerning the distribution of slots is to stimulate competition and provide support for new competing airlines. But in practice it has fallen a long way short of achieving this. On many of the most congested routes there are still just two airlines who are used to co-operating rather than competing."

☐ Proposals for an international airport in the heart of Oxfordshire have been scrapped. A private group of developers wanted to build the £4.5 billion Lox airport on farm land near Abingdon in an attempt to ease congestion at Heathrow and Gatwick.

Residents, local councils and MPs reacted angrily. Up to 3,413 houses in nearby villages would have been affected, with 87 having to be demolished to make way for two 4,000-yard runways.

The developers wrote to Oxfordshire County Council yesterday formally withdrawing the proposal, which had been submitted to the Department of Transport.



Fifty years ago the Allied leaders met in the Crimean town of Yalta to divide a defeated nation

How the Big Three made Germany pay for wartime sins



Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin wanted to avoid mistakes made by the Treaty of Versailles, imposing harsh conditions on a bitter people

In another of our occasional series leading up to the VE-Day commemorations in May, John Young looks at Allied bargaining on the shape of post-war Europe

ON FEBRUARY 11, 1945 the "big three" Allied leaders — Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin — concluded a week of talks in the Crimean town of Yalta, in a former Tsarist palace overlooking the Black Sea. In peacetime Yalta had been a popular holiday resort but the purpose of their meeting was anything but peaceful: to plan the final defeat and occupation of Germany.

It had already been agreed that post-war Germany should be divided into occupied zones administered by the Allies, although there had been some disagreement over whether France should have its own zone. Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union had already recognised General de Gaulle as head of the provisional French government but Roosevelt was adamant that he should not be invited to Yalta.

For some reason Roosevelt also wanted the British, who since the Normandy landings had occupied the left flank of the Allied advance and therefore spearheaded the drive into northern Germany, to swap places with the Americans further south.

But it was agreed that the Soviets would control a bloc extending 200 miles west of Berlin, the Americans would occupy the southern Rhineland and Bavaria, the British would be responsible for northwest Germany and the French would administer the Saar and most of the territory which it had historically disputed with Germany. Stalin was prepared to be conciliatory over the division of German territory, possibly because he did not foresee the Americans keeping troops in Europe for long and believed that once they left Germany would be his for the taking.

There was agreement that they had no obligation to German civilians other than to provide minimum subsistence; that all German industry that could be used for weapons production should be destroyed; and that war criminals would be tried before an international court. But Stalin demanded that forced labour should be used for repairing the devastation to his country.

Churchill and Roosevelt, however, argued that reparations should be paid for from the German people's post-war earnings, that there should be no seizure of capital assets and that, so far possible, living standards should be protected. They had no wish to repeat the tragic error of the Treaty of Versailles, signed at the end of the First World War in 1919, which, by imposing impossibly harsh conditions on a defeated people, had paved the way for Hitler to exploit the feeling of national humiliation.

Equally, if not more, contentious was the issue of Poland. Not only had Polish troops fought vigorously and heroically for the Allied cause, but Britain and the United States had maintained relations with the strongly anti-communist Polish government-in-exile in London. The Russians recognised the communist-dominated Polish committee of national liberation in Lublin.

A compromise was reached whereby a provisional government would include representatives of both groups pending free elections. Poland's border with Russia was agreed but its southern and western borders were left in abeyance. Both decisions infuriated Polish exiles, who foresaw *de facto* partition of their country or worse.

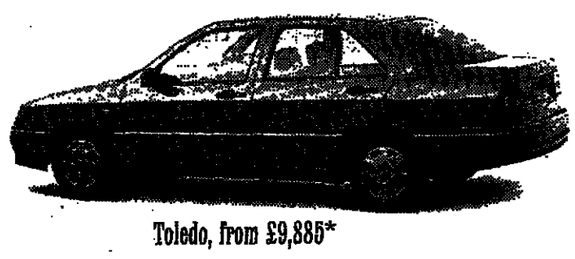
An agreement that had similarly unhappy consequences was that Marshal Tito, the Yugoslav partisan leader, would join Ivan Subasich, the royalist prime minister, in a government of national unity. Stalin also had his eye on possible gains for his Far Eastern empire.

At that stage the atom bomb was still on the drawing board. Roosevelt therefore believed that he would need Soviet help to finish the war in the Pacific. A secret agreement was reached whereby the Russians would enter the war against Japan two or three months after Germany surrendered. In return it would be allowed to annex territory lost to Imperial Russia in the war between the Tsar and the Emperor in 1904-05.

Roosevelt agreed that Japan would cede the Kurile islands, still a bone of contention 50 years on, that the Soviet Union would be allowed to establish a naval base on the island of Sakhalin, and that Outer Mongolia would be granted independence from China. Stalin undertook to sign a treaty of friendship with the Chinese leader, Chiang Kai-Shek, and raised the possibility of appeasing him by agreeing to hand over Hong Kong, a suggestion which Churchill rejected.

Yalta has been blamed for many of the tribulations of the subsequent half century. But one positive outcome was agreement on a charter for the United Nations and the establishment of a permanent Security Council.

Dresden protest, page 11
Tim Garton-Ash, page 16



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Tribute to American airmen takes off

MORE than £1.3 million has been raised in the United States towards the estimated £5.3 million needed to build an annexe to the Imperial War Museum in Duxford, Cambridgeshire, to house American warplanes (John Young writes).

Charlton Heston, the actor, and Field Marshal Lord Bramall, former chief of the defence staff, are co-chairmen of the project, which would commemorate the sacrifices made by American pilots flying missions over Nazi Germany. The display would include aircraft from later conflicts as well as the Second World War.

On Thursday night Baroness Thatcher helped the cause by speaking at a fundraising dinner in Houston, Texas. A committee has also been established to raise money in Britain.

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German Neo-Nazis send out call for anti-British protests at Dresden

Anniversary of bombing opens 'war crime' wound

FROM ROGER BOYES IN DRESDEN

A NEO-NAZI group is planning today to stage an anti-British demonstration in the centre of Dresden during the 50th anniversary commemorations of the Allied bombing of the city.

The city authorities have banned demonstrations by both left- and right-wing extremist groups during this sensitive anniversary but the so-called "Federation for a United Germany" plans to go ahead anyway. The group is close to the well-established National Party of Germany and has been sending calls for the demonstration to computer mailboxes and over a special telephone line for far-right sympathisers.

The move raises the question of how the people of Dresden now regard the British and Americans, half a century after the bombing that razed their city. The first raid, by the RAF, was on February 13, 1945. It was followed by three raids by the then US Army Air Force.

Ursula Wilde, now a retired bookkeeper, was 24 at the time of the firebombing and fled from cellar to cellar to escape the intense heat and the collapsing buildings. She remembers it all: the panic, the rush for water, the corpses underfoot, the suffocated and the charred. "No," she says now, "I don't hate the British."

In October 1992 eggs were thrown at the Queen who was greeted with placards demanding: "Away with Bomber Harris!" But the context was different: only months before a statue had been unveiled in London to the mastermind of RAF Bomber Command, Sir Arthur Harris, and anger was running high in Dresden. Harris is still regarded in Dresden as a war criminal.

A young taxi driver on the road from the airport points to the large barracks recently vacated by the Russian troops.

THE SURVIVORS

"No metaphor of hell can fully describe the firestorm."

Dresden's bombers and victims recall the air raids.

In *The Times* on Monday

"They were occupied by the Wehrmacht before, and yet they were not touched by a single bomb," he says. "Can you tell me why he didn't select any military targets?"

There will be no RAF representative at the ceremonies on February 13. Instead, Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge, the Chief of the Defence Staff, will lay a wreath at the main grave of unidentified victims. The principal British representative will be the Duke of Kent.

The question of the British-inflicted wound still hangs in the air. Dr Herbert Wagner, the Mayor of Dresden, is very clear about this: "We know that this war brought about 40-45 million dead throughout the world, and we are well aware who started the war." The communists, he said, manipulated the Dresden bombing to make it an indictment of West German and American "militarism".

Nowadays Dresden's school classes discuss the bombing but always in the broader context of the war. English language classes use a textbook that deals with both the Dresden and the Coventry bombings. The engineer supervising the rebuilding of the Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady), which collapsed in the intense heat of the raid, receives threatening mail. But again this is part of a different debate. The Frauenkirche was allowed to stay as a blackened mountain of rubble as a political warning against militarism. The project to restore the church was therefore regarded as controversial.

The latest restoration estimate of 400 million marks (£168 million) has reawakened the critics, but anti-British sentiments play only a marginal role. On the contrary, the work of the Dresden Trust, whose supporters include Canon Paul Oestreicher of Coventry Cathedral and Lord Menuhin, the musician, have helped to soothe the mood. The Trust has been raising money for the restoration of the Frauenkirche; significantly, the Queen has made a private contribution of several thousand pounds to the Trust.

As a student, Goethe stood on the upper gallery of the Frauenkirche and surveyed a landscape of ruins. The sacristan told him: "*Das hat der Feind getan*" [the enemy did that]. The enemy forces were the Prussians who besieged Dresden in 1760.

The city was never, of course, so completely bombarded as on February 13-14, 1945. More than 3,500 tonnes of explosive and phosphorous were dropped. Twelve thousand buildings were destroyed, including 25 churches and five theatres. The Army Museum was not touched. According to the latest estimates by German historians, 25,000 people died.

The writer Christoph Dieckmann puts Dresden in the new German perspective. "We can say, not as witnesses, nor as prosecutors, that Dresden was an Allied war crime instigated by Hitler's Germany," he says. "Goering would not have hesitated for a second to Coventry-ise British cities if he had been able." But at the same time: "Germany's liberators also waded in blood. Soldiers are murderous, war has no other use for them."

Dresden wants a little more from Britain than Britain is prepared to give. Not exactly an apology — that plainly will not be forthcoming — but a critical revision of its own role in the raids. Not even the tolerant Dresden Mayor can understand the erection of the statue of Harris.

Die Woche newspaper commented this week with amazement that the RAF Museum in London has dedicated a hall to 55,000 fallen British and Commonwealth airmen. "Almost every air target is scrupulously recorded there. But there is no reference to Dresden," the paper said.

An elderly greengrocer said: "We would like to see the Queen make a gesture similar to Willy Brandt at the Warsaw ghetto memorial, a gesture of remorse. But before she can do this, the English will have to recognise that they committed a great wrong."

☐ **Memorial defaced:** Vandals sprayed graffiti on the memorial to victims of the bombing, police said. One slogan read: "Auschwitz, Majdanek, Treblinka, German perpetrators are not victims." *(Reuter)*



The scene from Dresden's city hall in the aftermath of the allied bombing raids

Attempt to save victims

Paris: Allied troops did try to save Nazi concentration camp inmates towards the end of the Second World War, despite widespread accusations to the contrary, France's best known spymaster says in his memoirs.

Jacques Foccart, an aide to General Charles de Gaulle, the French leader, writes that he headed the French contingent of an allied unit trained to be parachuted into the camps to prevent retreating SS guards from massacring the inmates as Germany collapsed. But M Foccart says the scheme was called off after a first team vanished without trace after being dropped into the heart of Nazi Germany.

A second team was captured by the Germans and, after escaping, was imprisoned by advancing Soviet forces. *(Reuter)*

Turks see gains to be made from Greek EU veto

FROM ANDREW FINKEL IN ISTANBUL

GREECE'S attempt to block closer ties between the European Union and Turkey may ultimately work in Ankara's favour, Turkish officials and business executives believe.

Athens announced on Thursday that it would not lift its objections to Turkey proceeding to a full customs union on manufactured goods with the EU, pending an improved deal over Cyprus and increased compensation for its textile sector. Yet that decision will immediately harm European manufacturers, who now pay an estimated £1.3 billion in tariffs to get access to Turkish markets, according to analysts.

Under the schedule for customs union, Turkish manufacturers enjoy free access to European markets with the important exception of quotas on textiles and clothing. Should agreement with Brussels be signed, it becomes the turn of Turkish industry to lift an average 12.8 per cent level of protection. Over the past year, most Turkish manufacturers have become reluctant converts to customs union. The common belief is that Turkey can only survive in the long term by being a member of the trade bloc, according to Yavuz Canevi, former head of the Turkish central bank.

It is the short-term adjustment which terrifies Ankara. Turkish industry is being asked to make a structural adjustment at a time when wholesale prices are rising at 156 per cent a year and interest rates make commercial borrowing an impossibility.

The prospect of being denied the forbidden fruit of Europe has now excited a previously apathetic or even hostile public.

In Nicosia, a spokesman for the Cyprus Government said last night that it had no alternative but to accept the Athens decision to continue negotiations on issues relating to the island.

New Vikings seek fortunes at sea

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

A THOUSAND years after their forefathers ravaged the English coast, Britain has locked horns with latter-day Vikings threatening pillage and plunder. This time it is not Danegeld they seek, but the riches that lie beneath the sea — in particular, the oil and gas resources off the Shetlands.

Britain and the Faroes each claim underwater drilling rights in the continental shelf around their islands. But their zones overlap, and for the past 20 years the two countries have been negotiating intermittently. Unable to agree, they now face three choices: a final push to reach a solution, a ruling by the International Court of Justice or a new Viking war.

The first option is the most likely. A Foreign Office legal team, including a naval hydrographer, will resume talks with the Faroese later this month, after a meeting in Copenhagen between Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, and Edmund Joensen, the leader of the Faroes Home Rule Government. Both sides insist they want an amicable settlement, and do not want to take the dispute to The Hague.

The Faroes, an archipelago of 17 rocky islands midway between the Shetlands and Iceland, are a self-governing part of Denmark, first settled by Irish monks, colonised by the Vikings and Christianised by the king of Norway 990 years ago. The Vikings once occupied much of Britain and Scotland; in the Second World War Britain controlled the Faroes after the Germans occupied Denmark.

The barren islands support only about 45,000 people who make a good living from fish — but the oil potential could bring them the same bonanza that has transformed the Shetlands.

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Christians fearful after Pakistan death sentences

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT

THE sentencing to death of two Christians, one a 14-year-old boy, for blasphemy against the Prophet Muhammad has highlighted the increasing persecution of religious minorities in Pakistan. Both were shot and wounded by Islamic fanatics during their year-long trial. A third accused was shot dead.

After being found guilty, Salamat Masih and Rehmat Masih, 40, were ordered to do two years' hard labour and pay heavy fines before being executed. It is only the second time the death sentence has been imposed since parliament amended the penal code in July 1992, raising the blashemy penalty from life imprisonment to death.

In the first case, a higher court acquitted the accused on appeal. The law says that anybody who "directly or indirectly" defiles the name of the Holy Prophet, whether visibly or by innuendo, must be executed. The wording has been criticised as too vague. A person can be convicted of blasphemy on the word of a single witness. The religious passion surrounding the case has demonstrated the extent of Islamisation of Pakistan's civil and criminal laws since the early 1980s, leaving minorities vulnerable. The sentencing to death of a child has outraged human rights organisations. He is on death row at Lahore Central Jail.

During the trial, fundamentalist mullahs led demonstrations demanding execution of the two Christians, accused by an imam (prayer leader) of throwing scraps of paper, containing blasphemous remarks, into a mosque. Asma Jahangir, the lawyer chairwoman of the Pakistan Human Rights Commission who is representing the accused, said in Lahore last night that the verdict had left religious minorities feeling threatened. "It gives an invitation to religious terrorist groups to seek fresh victims by using the law," she said. "Even if the execution is never carried out, it is inhumane and unjust to impose the death penalty on a child." An appeal had been lodged with Lahore High Court and she was optimistic that bail would be granted to both accused within a month.

Three gunmen on a motorcycle shot the two accused, both Roman Catholics, as they left a court hearing in Lahore last April, seriously injuring them. A human rights worker accompanying them was also wounded. Three suspects, all said by police to be members of Islamic terrorist groups, have been charged and released on bail. Religious minorities make up 5 per cent of Pakistan's population of 124 million. Most Christians, numbering about 2.5 million, are Roman Catholics belonging to the multi-denominational Church of Pakistan, which includes Anglicans, American Methodists, Lutherans and Scottish Presbyterians.

Pakistan's judicial system has been steadily weakened by the parallel operation of the Sharia courts, which prescribe Islamic punishments — including stoning, public flogging and amputation. Successive leaders of Pakistan, founded in 1947, have attempted to exploit religion to define the nation, which was declared an Islamic republic in 1956. There is little else to unite it: ethnic, linguistic and tribal battles, fuelled by drugs and a pervasive gun culture, threaten to tear it apart.

Leading article, page 17

Setback for Hekmatyar

Kabul: Fighters of the militant Afghan student movement, Taleban, captured the provincial capital of Maidan Shahr yesterday, driving out forces of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-i-Islami party.

Muhammad Rabbani, the Taleban leader, said his fighters had launched a second attack on the town, the capital of Wardak province, at midnight and captured the town by 2am. Hezb-i-Islami had repulsed an earlier fierce Taleban attack on the strategic town, about 18 miles south of Kabul, on Tuesday. However, Izatollah Noon, the local Hezb-i-Islami garrison commander, said later he was prepared to negotiate with the attacking student militants.

Maidan Shahr is a strategic centre on the main road to Kabul, the Afghan capital, from the south. It sits on an open valley with snow-capped mountains on either side.

With their control of the town, the Taleban force will be poised to continue on to Kabul or turn east to increase pressure on Hezb-i-Islami's headquarters at Charasyab in the next valley. *(Reuter)*

PETER O'SULLIVAN



For all their beauty, Cambodian villages are among the poorest in South-East Asia and in dire need of healthcare. British agencies say

Britons win reprieve for Cambodia aid mission

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

DISMAYED British aid workers in Cambodia have persuaded the British Government to think again about a decision to stop funding them unless they abandon the countryside and return to Phnom Penh.

The order to retreat to the capital, issued by Paul Reddicliffe, the British Ambassador, has caused outrage among many British-funded aid agencies, which fear that the Cambodian peace process, as well as the country's poor, will suffer if their projects are delayed. The ruling was issued in the aftermath of the abduction and killing by embattled Khmer Rouge guerrillas last year of three young Britons in two incidents. The decision to review the edict was taken after a meeting in London on Thursday between Tony Baldry, Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign Office, Overseas Development Administration officials, and aid agency heads, including representatives of Oxfam, Save the Children, Voluntary Service Overseas, and Help the Aged. The Government is to announce its final decision on Tuesday.

Justin Byworth, Asia programme officer for World Vision UK, one of the agencies affected, said yesterday: "We were extremely concerned and we are pleased that, in our meeting with the Foreign Office and the ODA, they expressed their willingness to review the situation." World Vision UK runs two projects in Cambodia — one in Battambang city and one in the countryside in Kompong Tralach — which provide healthcare for 50,000 people using a hospital and clinics. The ODA is due to pay half the £100,000 costs of running the schemes this year unless the funding is withdrawn.

Ruth Ashe, 35, a nurse who runs World Vision UK's Battambang project, said yesterday she wanted to continue working in the provinces, even if the ruling is upheld. "I have been here two and a half years and the security situation has worsened. But it is not like Grozny. All the aid agencies have a good security co-ordinating system, with 24-hour UN radios. We pay attention to all local reports and do not venture out if we think it is dangerous. We are not stupid. If it were that bad we would pull out. The ruling was devastating. Our project is in a very needy area and the people who would suffer are the worst off. To leave would undermine everything we have done."

A senior Cambodian security official, meanwhile, confirmed the defection of the most senior Khmer Rouge official yet from the Maoist-inspired insurgent faction, Sar Kim Lamouth, the Khmer Rouge's equivalent of finance minister, came over to the government side in early November, but his change of allegiance had been kept secret.

Kobe cat Ugly rescued from quake rubble

Tokyo: Mewing from under a shattered factory led workmen to a cat which they pulled out of rubble 21 days after the earthquake that devastated much of Kobe in western Japan last month.

Workmen were clearing debris from the factory on Tuesday when they heard the weak call of a trapped cat, Toshiro Moriuchi, a Kobe veterinary surgeon, said yesterday. But the cat, named Busu, or Ugly, had to wait several more hours as workmen removed iron plates and bars by acetylene torch to reach it.

The cat's right paw needs to be amputated because it was crushed between a locker and a sewing machine in the earthquake on January 17. Mr Moriuchi said. The tortoiseshell cat is being nursed back to health so that it can survive the surgery. The cat's owner, the president of the factory firm, was said to have been a quake survivor.

Volunteers are also caring for pets rescued from the rubble which lost their owners in the disaster. The quake killed at least 5,296 people and destroyed tens of thousands of buildings. A week ago, a six-month-old golden retriever, weak but otherwise well, was rescued from the rubble. *(AP)*

Japanese confess to vivisection of PoWs

FROM GWEN ROBINSON
IN TOKYO

SIX veterans of Unit 731, the germ warfare experimentation group of the Japanese Army in the Second World War, yesterday broke a 50-year silence about their participation in gruesome experiments on live prisoners of war.

The men publicly confessed their involvement in the experiments and recounted their experiences in a booklet. "Only once did I use the scalpel on a living prisoner of war, to open his chest,, a 72-year-old former army doctor said. He admitted, however, that he had witnessed a number of other vivisections conducted on PoWs in the unit's facilities in Manchuria.

"The dissections were sometimes conducted on fully conscious people without anaesthetic. Their screaming was terrifying, but their voices would die away," he said.

Unit 731 was active in China, primarily in Manchuria, in the years leading up to and including the war. Army doctors conducted secret experiments, including injecting deadly diseases, vivisecting, and partially freezing live victims, mainly Chinese, Russians and Mongolians.

Some of the germ warfare experiments were conducted on the local population. Takeo Wano, 71, a former medical orderly, said that army physicians contaminated local wells with deadly germs under the pretence of carrying out water tests. Mr Wano, who participated in the experiments, said he only found out the real purpose of the water test after the war.

The macabre research activities of Unit 731 remained secret in the immediate post-war period, even during the Tokyo war crime trials. Historians say that the knowledge gathered by the unit was considered so valuable by American commanders at the time that many of the doctors responsible for the experiments were allowed to go free in exchange for their data.

China child policy 'disaster'

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY
IN HONG KONG

CHINA'S policy of one child per family is collapsing, with disastrous consequences, according to population experts.

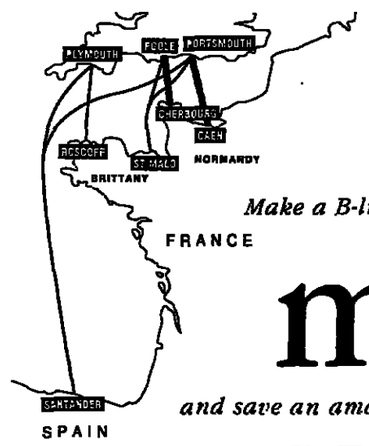
Marcus Feldman, of Stanford University in California, says that because of traditional preference for boys and the pressures of the one-child policy, the abortion of female foetuses and the killing of infant girls will lead to 110 men of marriageable age for every 100 women within 25 years.

Writing in the *Science Professor* journal, he states that sonic imaging and amniocentesis are being used by Chinese to determine the gender of foetuses and to abort them if they are female. The Peking Government has recently banned the use of ultrasound machines for gender determination, but an estimated 10,000 have been introduced into the country since 1979, and peasants pay heavily to ensure they will have sons. It has been estimated that 97.5 per cent of abortions are performed on female foetuses.

Professor Feldman says the increasing shortage of women, which is already acute in many parts of China, will lead to more prostitution, much older marriages, and a decisive advantage for rich men who will be able to offer more money to prospective brides.

Chinese newspapers regularly report the abduction of women. Last December, 11 kidnappers were sentenced to be shot after they had taken 102 women, some of whom they raped before selling them in distant provinces to rich peasants. Two abducted women were recently imprisoned for attempting to murder their husbands. A newspaper recently published photographs of abandoned dead babies under the headline "Mothers, take back your daughters".

The population in China is surging because there are so many fertile women. The official Xinhua news agency reported last month that, over the next 35 years, China's population will rise from 1.2 billion to 1.63 billion. The country "can only support a population of 1.5 to 1.6 billion", Zhang Zhenghua, a deputy director of the Family Planning Commission, has said.



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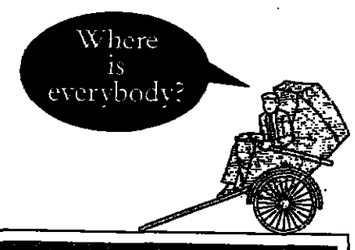
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Zedillo steps up fight to crush Mexican rebels

BY DAVID ADAMS

MEXICAN troops reportedly pushed deep into rebel territory in the southern state of Chiapas yesterday after President Zedillo ordered a massive search to capture "Subcomandante Marcos" and named the masked charismatic leader of the Zapatista National Liberation Army.

Señor Zedillo said on Thursday that the rebel chief's real name is Rafael Guillén Vicente, a well-educated man in his mid-thirties from a middle-class family in Tampico, Tamaulipas, on the northeastern border with America. Señor Zedillo ordered his arrest with other rebel leaders, and accused them of planning "new and greater acts of violence, not only in Chiapas but in other parts of the country".

Mexican officials said they has discovered caches of weapons and explosives at rebel safe houses in Mexico City and the eastern state of Veracruz. Troop movements were reported yesterday around the town of San Cristóbal de las Casas, scene of the Zapatista uprising a year ago. Rebels declared a red alert in response to Señor Zedillo's announcement and said they had mined mountain paths and roads around their bases.

Experts said the President, who took office barely two months ago, was gambling on a quick victory to counter his weak and indecisive image and to lift national spirits during an economic crisis that has led to a dramatic rise in unemployment, dented savings, and caused a sudden rise in the cost of living.

The Zapatistas are no match for the Mexican Army, which has deployed about 15,000 troops in the state since the rebellion began in January last year. The rebels control the Lacandón rain forest, an almost impenetrable mountainous area in the east of the state, where they claim to have several thousand lightly armed fighters.

Analysts said that if the army does not quickly capture the rebel leaders and disarm the Zapatista forces, Chiapas could face a prolonged conflict. In that event, the effect on an already battered Mexican stock market and the devalued peso could further undermine economic confidence among foreign investors on whom the country relies. That scenario is of particular concern to the Clinton Administration which last week put together a $50 billion (£32.2 billion) loan package to help to stabilise the Mexican economy.

Community leaders sympathetic to the rebels called for international action to prevent civil war breaking out. Mgr Samuel Ruiz, the Bishop of San Cristóbal, urged the Government to rethink its actions. "No effort to negotiate a political solution can be as costly for Chiapas and the country as the sufferings and destructive consequences of a military confrontation," he said.

Analysts said the Government's evidence of Zapatista plans to mount a campaign of terror may be exaggerated. The arms caches consisted of six grenade-launchers, one Uzi sub-machinegun, two pistols, and a small quantity of explosives. Señor Zedillo's actions are probably motivated more by his political troubles and image problem than any security threat in Chiapas, which has been largely contained for more than a year. The operation bears a striking similarity to a crackdown by Señor Zedillo's predecessor, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, who in his early days in office won much-needed backing by arresting a corrupt and powerful oil-workers' union leader, Joaquin Hernández. "This is an attractive way for Zedillo to recuperate his lost image," said Lorenzo Meyer, a leading political commentator. "If it goes well, he will unite the conservative majority of the country behind him. But it's a big risk," he said.



A Mexican official compares a picture of Rafael Vicente with the masked Zapatista rebel leader, Marcos

Family demands release of jailed Cuban general

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

THE family of a top Cuban general, jailed in 1989 for his alleged role in a drug trafficking scandal that rocked the country, is demanding his release after a United Nations human rights body declared that his trial was unlawful.

In a ruling made public this week, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, declared that the trial of General Patricio de la Guardia, 55, who was sentenced to 30 years in jail, was a violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The UN group asked the Cuban Government "to take the necessary measures to remedy the situation".

"That can only mean one thing, that he be freed," said Jorge Masetti, who is married to Señor de la Guardia's niece, Ileana, a 30-year-old psychologist. Her father, Colonel Antonio (Tony) de la Guardia, was sentenced to death in the same trial and executed by firing squad with another top officer, General Arnaldo Ochoa. In all, four officers were executed and nine others jailed. The trial marked the greatest scandal in 30 years of revolutionary rule in Cuba.

For Ileana, the memory of her father lives on in a curious and doubly painful way. Her uncle, Patricio, is her father's identical twin. He is detained in virtual solitary confinement in the prison of Güines, outside Havana. He is allowed to receive family visits every 21 days. Apparently his only distraction is painting.

Ileana, and relatives of the family in Cuba and the United States, have long claimed Patricio's innocence. They say that his trial and 30-year sentence were a legal farce.

The twins were among President Castro's most privileged and trusted officers, playing a key role in Cuba's international crusade to foment revolutionary movements across Latin America. Tony earned a reputation as a sort of Cuban James Bond when he was in the Interior Ministry's elite special troops, shipping money and arms wherever Castro dictated.



Antonio de la Guardia: executed in 1989

Tony's mission was also tailored to Cuba's international economic predicament — the US trade embargo. Cuba developed ways around the embargo by ingenious, often illegal, schemes. Tony began dealing with Colombian drug cartels, offering to launder money through Cuba's tourist industry, which was desperately seeking cash to build hotels.

The de la Guardia family contends that when America found out, the Cuban Government did what it could to protect Castro, and the twins took the fall.

The twins were arrested on June 12, 1989, on the eve of their 51st birthday. Tony was executed a month later after the hastily arranged trial. Patricio was sentenced to 30 years in jail for not denouncing his brother.

In a letter smuggled out of prison a year later, Patricio said that the trial was staged. In return for leniency, he said, he had been told to plead guilty and avoid implicating more senior officials, even though his brother's drug deals had been approved "by the highest authorities in the country".



Bono: star of rival Republican gala

Clinton upstaged by grand old party

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

THIS is a tale of two dinners that vividly illustrates how power has shifted in Washington since the Republicans seized control of Congress.

For the first time in memory, a White House state dinner was rivalled on Thursday night by another event of perhaps greater allure in this status-conscious capital.

Admittedly some of the black limousines clogging Washington's streets were heading for 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, where President Clinton was honouring Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor. But the majority were heading for the Washington Convention Centre and a $1,000-a-plate Republican black-tie dinner. The event raised $11 million (£7.1 million), making it the single biggest fundraiser in American history.

The White House dinner was described by social commentators as "restrained and low-key", the guest list "sober". The 126 invitees were politicians, diplomats and businessmen, with hardly a celebrity or film star to leaven the mix. The only memorable joke was Mr Clinton's observation that his long-serving German counterpart — and fellow trencherman — had visited Washington so many times that "on his last trip here he took me to *his* favourite restaurant".

A few blocks away at the Convention Centre there were 4,100 guests and, by contrast, an atmosphere of riotous exuberance. There was a victory parade of all the Republican Governors, Senators and Congressmen who triumphed last November. Behind the head table was a 120ft replica of the Capitol, now in Republican hands for the first time in 40 years.

The White House guests were entertained by Tony Bennett, the veteran crooner, the Republicans by the far more glamorous Natalie Cole as four giant screens offered close-up views of Nat King Cole's celebrated daughter. Sonny Bono, the former singer and actor and now a California congressman, also graced the party.

"It's a grand night for the Grand Old Party," proclaimed Haley Barbour, the Republican Party chairman. If the party did not have such an embarrassment of leaders "we could have called it a coronation", declared Trent Lott, the Senate Whip.

Shorter US primary season drives all but richest away

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

DAN QUAYLE'S abrupt withdrawal from the 1996 presidential contest triggered a race yesterday among the remaining Republican contenders to woo his religious Right base, and has increased the chances of Pete Wilson, California's Governor, entering the contest.

Phil Gramm, the Texas senator, declared he was the only true conservative left and swiftly announced his implacable opposition to Henry Foster, President Clinton's nominee for Surgeon-General who has aroused conservative enmity by admitting performing abortions.

Lamar Alexander, the former Tennessee governor and Education Secretary, claimed he was now the one true Washington "outsider" seeking the Republican nomination, the only other heavyweight contender being Robert Dole, the Senate leader.

Mr Wilson no longer denies he will be a candidate and is now said to be tilting towards running. Given his California base, he is probably the only Republican aside from the three main runners who could raise the necessary funds in time. William Weld, the Massachusetts Governor, indicated on Thursday that he would run if Mr Wilson did not.

A Gallup poll yesterday showed 55 per cent of Americans did not believe President Clinton should seek re-election, and that Mr Dole would beat Mr Clinton by 51 to 44 per cent.

Mr Quayle insisted he was withdrawing to spare his family the rigours of yet another arduous campaign, but Republican insiders said the real reason was the former Vice-President's inability to win the backing of the big donors.

Mr Quayle is the fourth prominent Republican to withdraw for financial reasons, the others being former Cabinet Secretaries Jack Kemp, Richard Cheney and William Bennett and South Carolina's former Governor Carroll Campbell.

Their departures illustrate how the race has been changed by the decision of California and New York to bring forward their primaries, effectively condensing the season into a mere seven weeks. Candidates must now raise a minimum $20 million (£13 million) — roughly $50,000 a day — before the season starts. They can no longer bank on an early victory in Iowa or New Hampshire to generate funds because there will not be time.

WORLD SUMMARY

Russian leader to visit

London: Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Russian Prime Minister, is coming to Britain next month for a three-day visit that is expected to cement London's close ties with Moscow despite the Chechen war (Michael Binyon writes).

Mr Chernomyrdin will have talks with John Major and is to focus on the burgeoning trade relations between the two countries. The Russian leader is also expected in Britain in May to represent President Yeltsin at the 50th anniversary commemorations of VE-Day.

British link to bombing

New York: A British link to the World Trade Centre bombing emerged last night when it was disclosed that Ramzi Ahmad Yousef, the accused mastermind, escaped from the United States using a Pakistani passport in the name of Abdul Basit, a former engineering student in Swansea (James Bone writes). Mr Yousef is an Iraqi who was captured in Pakistan. Welsh universities were checking last night to see if he is on their records.

New Cabinet for India

Delhi: P. V. Narasimha Rao, the Indian Prime Minister, has retained Manmohan Singh, architect of the Government's economic reform programme, as Finance Minister in his new Cabinet. The ailing Dinesh Singh, who becomes a minister without portfolio, was replaced as Foreign Minister by Pranab Mukherjee, Commerce Minister in the outgoing Cabinet. *(Reuter)*

Sausage dogs

Rabat: Moroccan police have arrested a Casablanca butcher after they discovered that he was selling sausages which were stuffed with dog meat. The man had been advertising his wares as "spicy and delicious". *(Reuter)*



Whoever dreamt up the phrase "cold hands, warm heart" was an idiot. Because as we all know, nothing dampens lovers' ardour quite as much as a pair of cold hands. (A cold nose doesn't help either). Perhaps that's why summer romances have always been popular.

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Sudanese rebels hold foreign aid workers hostage

FROM SAM KILEY IN NATINGA, SOUTHERN SUDAN

FIVE foreign aid workers were being held hostage yesterday by a splinter group of southern Sudanese rebels after they were captured when the town in which they were working was attacked.

The rebels, former members of the South Sudan Independence Movement (SSIM), released six other relief workers taken earlier this week. The hostages were held for 24 hours after the United Nations bartered for their freedom with food. The SSIM, which split from the Sudan People's Liberation Army in 1991, said yesterday that it would seek a reconciliation with the SPLA.

Sally Burnheim, a spokeswoman for the UN's Operation Lifeline Sudan, said yesterday that the five hostages and their captors had been spotted moving north of the village of Pulturuk. "Radio contact was established and the hostages are OK," Miss Burnheim said. "But the intentions of the kidnappers are not clear." She declined to give names and nationalities until next of kin were informed. "The hostages are all well and haven't been mistreated but, at least until yesterday, we know they had been without food and water for more than 30 hours."

Southern rebels, claiming to be fighting for independence or regional autonomy for southern Sudan from the Islamic fundamentalist regime in the north, have kidnapped and killed foreign aid workers in their areas over the past four years. At least one part of the much-splintered SPLA, led by Colonel John Garang, is trying to improve its image after widespread criticism from the West for human rights abuses. This may be mainly in the hope of regaining credibility and winning support from Western countries as the north prepares to launch its annual dry-season offensive.

In Natinga, close to the Ugandan border, its guerrillas displayed prisoners of war, some captured six years ago, as proof that they had not executed all of them, as claimed by human rights groups.

"The rebels share what food they have with us. We eat well when they have food, and not so well when they suffer too," said Colonel Nazradeed Hommmad, a former government military commander.

The West, including America and Britain, Sudan's former colonial master, has been slow to show support for the rebels because of their persistent factional fighting, and a disregard for the well-being of their supporters in the south. However, if the SPLA can improve its image, the West may yet view it as a bulwark against Khartoum's desire to spread Islam across the Horn of Africa into Uganda and Ethiopia.

The rebels from the SPLA mainstream, loyal to Colonel Garang, have suffered badly from splits among their leadership which started in 1991. Gordon Koang Banypiny, who led the troops who kidnapped the aid workers in Upper Nile province, was once an SPLA officer and appears now to be operating as a freelance bandit.

Since 1991, Colonel Garang's followers have emerged as the only southern rebels who are not being supported by Khartoum. Most of his fighting has been against former members of his inner circle, who lead their own armies and operate as proxy divisions for the Khartoum Government. As a result, the SPLA has lost its grip on Upper Nile province and is fighting to keep hold of Eastern Equatoria.

Prisoner returns to his cell as President

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

NELSON MANDELA yesterday returned to Robben Island, where he spent 18 of his 27 years of imprisonment. This time he was accompanied by 1,300 admirers, former fellow prisoners and other political and civic dignitaries of the new South Africa.

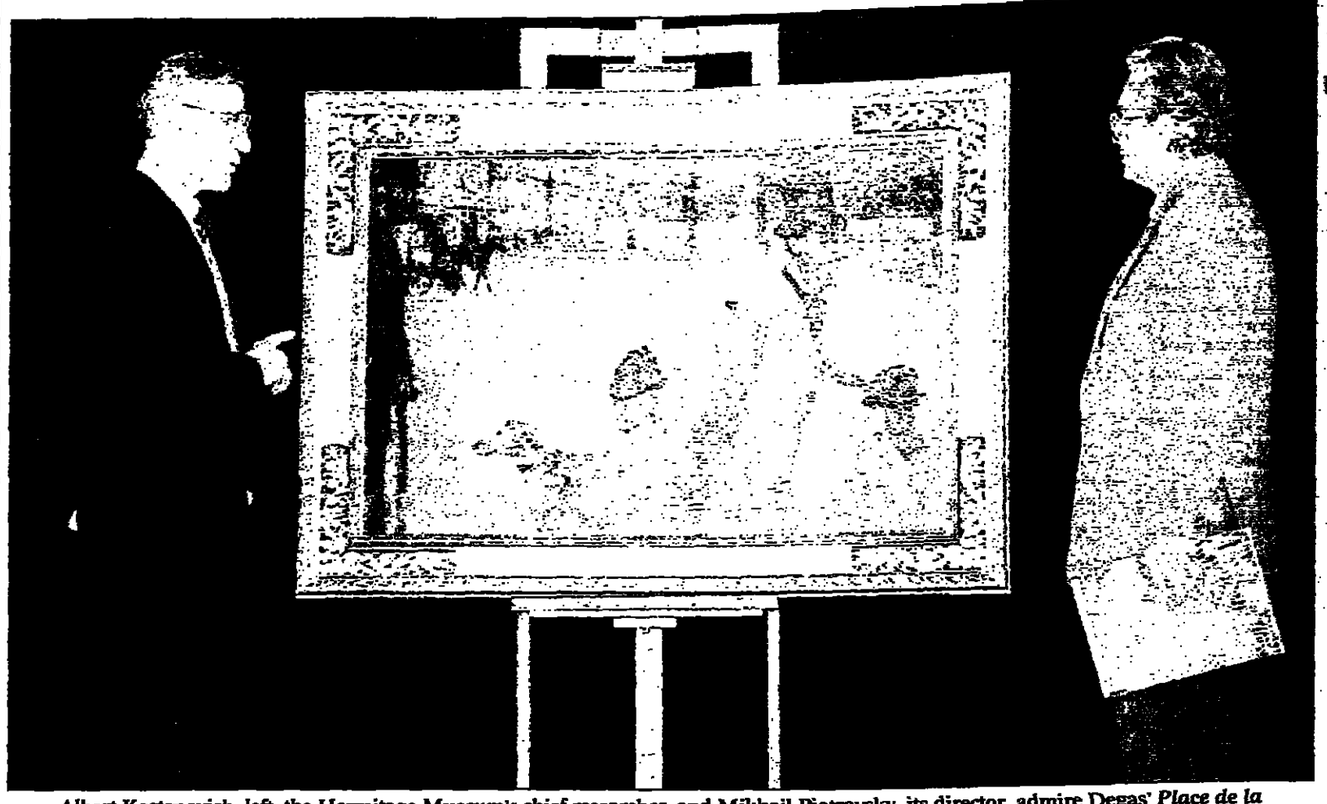
A huge circus tent was pitched in the centre of the island for lunch, and the President, once the world's most famous political prisoner, reminded people that many of the island's former denizens were not at all well known. All the same, he said, they had helped to shape South Africa's history.

One of the more famous of his former colleagues, Govan Mbeki, a veteran Communist who was jailed with Mr Mandela in the so-called Rivonia trial in 1964, and whose son Thabo is the President's first deputy and heir-apparent, welcomed the visitors, and pointed out that not everything was bad on the island: many illiterate prisoners had received academic and political education there.

For the island tourists there were visits to B-block, where Mr Mandela and the rest of the African National Congress high command were held. They also visited the beach where the prisoners had gathered seaweed, and were, according to the President's autobiography, were glad to be close to the sea with a view of Table Mountain and the possibility of varying their diet with seafood stew.

Hermitage defiant over German claims to masterpieces

ALEXANDER DEMYANCHUK/REUTER



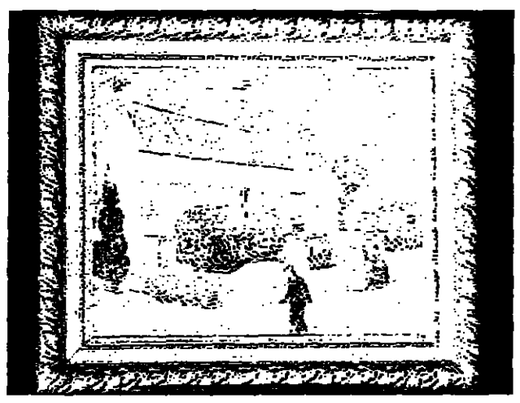
Albert Kostenovich, left, the Hermitage Museum's chief researcher, and Mikhail Piotrovsky, its director, admire Degas' *Place de la Concorde*. Below left is Van Gogh's *La Maison Blanche* and, right, Gauguin's *Piti Teina*. The three pictures go on show next month

Russia puts treasures on display

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

THREE of the masterpieces from the Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg, whose priceless collection of 74 canvasses was kept secret until last week, are to be put on display next month.

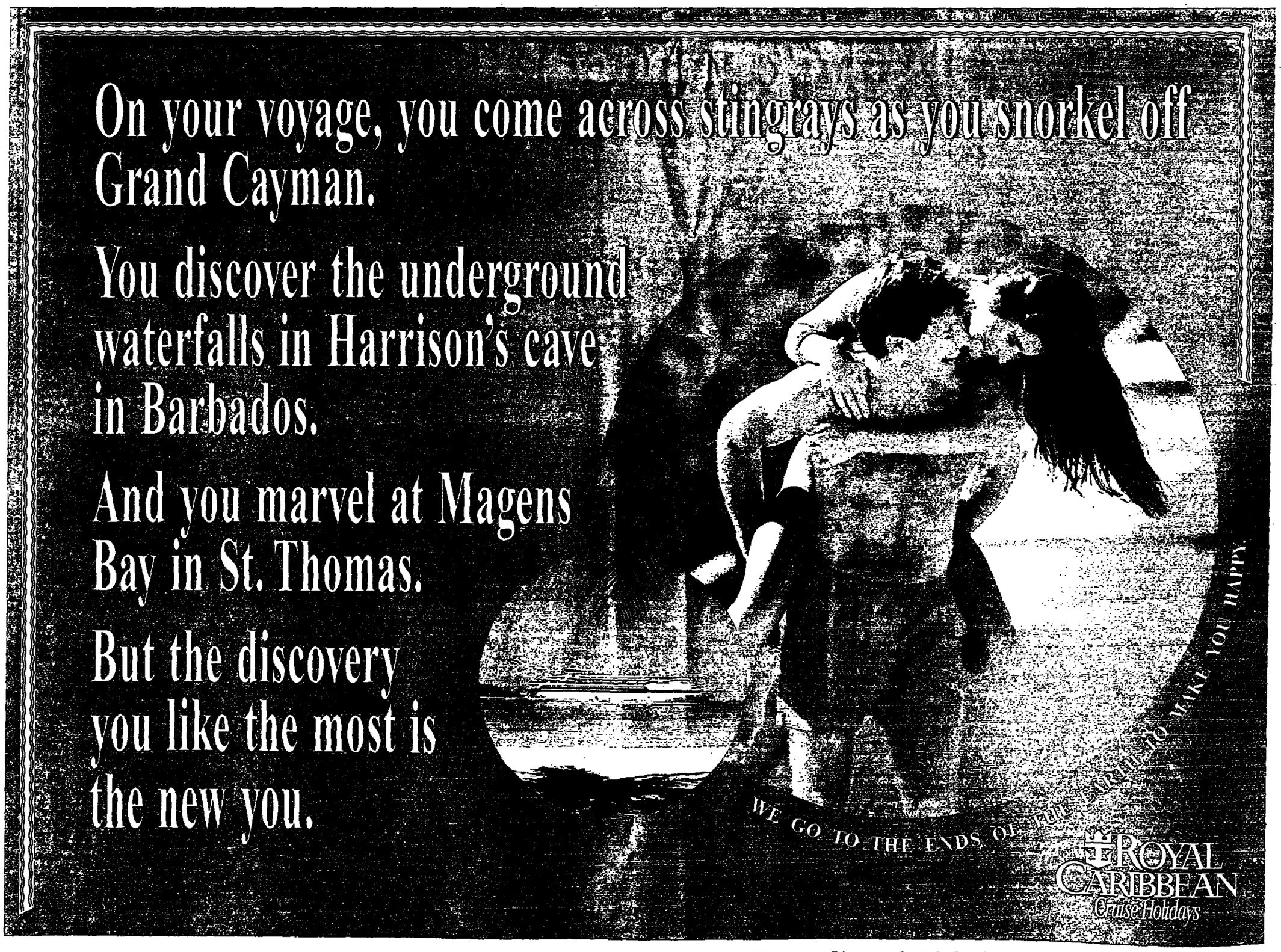
Visitors will be able to view Degas' *Place de la Concorde*, Van Gogh's *La Maison Blanche* and Gauguin's *Piti Teina*. The collection, which was seized by Red Army soldiers during the Second World War and brought back to Russia, was kept secret until the museum was given permission to open the "Hidden Treasures Revealed" exhibition. The works, which include 15 Renoirs, four Van Goghs and a Picasso sketch, were taken from the private collections of three Berlin families in 1945.



Although the pictures have been claimed by the descendants of the original German owners, Mikhail Piotrovsky, the Hermitage Museum's director, said that until a settlement had been agreed they were "not going anywhere".

The Russians claim that they seized art works in Germany as compensation for national treasures plundered by the invading Nazis, which included an entire 18th-century amber chamber in a St Petersburg palace.





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Illustrious Chancellor's widow unnerves Social Democrats with rattle of Cold War skeletons

Brandt papers revive spy claims



BONN FILE
by ROGER BOYES

A 48-YEAR-OLD German widow with a taste for mini-skirts has just resigned from the Social Democratic Party and has promptly become the chief talking point of the political class in Bonn. The furore is only partly explained by the fact that the woman, Brigitte Seebacher, was married to Willy Brandt, the late, great Social Democrat Chancellor.

Frau Seebacher, a formidable polemicist, is accusing her party of a serious espionage cover-up and is giving a warning that, if even half of the currently circulating spy stories are true, the whole history of Ostpolitik will have to be rewritten. Little wonder that there was not a wet eye in the house when she returned her party card. Nobody, least of all the Social Democrats, wants to be reminded of the rather murky dealings with East Germany and Moscow in the 1970s and 1980s.

Frau Seebacher was a shrewd party historian when she met Brandt. The former Chancellor was at the tail end of another marriage which had been wrecked in large part by his libidinous nature. Frau Seebacher, to the surprise of many, tamed Brandt. She cut back his alcohol intake and his smoking, and put some order in to his chaotic working days.

She also controlled access to the former Chancellor, famously sending Mikhail Gorbachev packing when he rang on the entryphone to their small house in Unkel, near Bonn. As Brandt's cancer ate him up, Frau Seebacher nursed him and became the guardian of her husband's autobiographical notes.

One such note has caused the present scandal. After a conversation with Valentin Falin, one of Russia's best experts on Germany, Brandt returned home and wrote that "since 1975, Karl W. committed himself to working for the services over there". "W." was undoubtedly Karl Wienand, aide to Brandt's far-from-trusting Social Democrat colleague Herbert Wehner. Herr Wienand, in hospital with heart problems at the moment, is awaiting trial for alleged KGB activities. He denies that he was an agent.

Mr Falin also denies that he made such a specific accusation. But Frau Seebacher is in no doubt. She is sure, and has said many times in public, that the man at the side of Herbert Wehner was an agent. The irony is complete since it was the crusty Herr Wehner who pushed Brandt to resign in 1974 because of the discovery of the East German spy, Günter Guillaume.

Frau Seebacher, a quiet-spoken woman, has been infected with some of her late husband's bitterness about the way he was levered out of power. Three Social Democrat politicians — Egon Bahr, who helped develop *Ostpolitik* with her husband, the Bavarian politician, Hans Joachim Vogel, and the current Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, Johannes Rau — knew about the KGB suspicion, yet they did nothing. Frau Seebacher would like to know why.

She claims that she is doing more than fighting a campaign on behalf of her late husband. She has uncovered a secret dimension in the shaping of East-West relations that has yet to be fully registered in the history books. Bonn, East Berlin and Moscow were communicating with each other through a web of spy contacts that competed with, rather than complemented, normal diplomatic channels.



Seebacher: uncovered new dimension to Germany's *Ostpolitik*

UN grows to get smaller

The UN bureaucracy needs to be cut down to size. Almost everyone can agree with that. And a German seems the appropriate person to do the job since Bonn has become one of the largest (and most prompt) contributors to the United Nations budget. Some eyebrows, however, are being raised about the decision to choose Karl Paschke, a diplomat, for this delicate job. Not known for his modest lifestyle, Dr Paschke's first move has been to expand the UN cost-cutting staff by more than a third.

Kinkel's guide to loving

KLAUS KINKEL, the German Foreign Minister who is worried that his Free Democratic Party will collapse again in local elections in Hesse next week, has been canvassing for the female vote.

It is difficult to imagine Douglas Hurd, his British counterpart, being quite so candid. His wife, Herr Kinkel said in a remarkable interview, was his first and only girlfriend and he would not be able to cope if she committed adultery.

"It would be unthinkable for my wife and I, and I would simply not be able to stomach it," he said.

However, he had to concentrate hard to remember the last time that he told his wife that he loved her. It must have been, he said, after a longish pause, on New Year's Eve 1993-94. We look forward to similar confessions from members of the British Cabinet.

Russian proves hottest of loaves

FROM REUTER IN MOSCOW

IGOR KUSELTAN, a biologist, says he knows from experience that his bread helps make men more potent. He has tried it himself.

"It definitely helps. I cannot say that you feel a change immediately, but after ten or 11 days you feel the effect," the Russian said yesterday. "When a man's sexual energy starts to fade, a change in diet often helps."

The bread, baked to a recipe that includes wheat germ, low-fat milk powder, sugar and butter, was presented to journalists and Moscow shopowners. "We keep the germ of the grain in the bread," said Mr Kuseltan, 74, who looks 20 years younger. "The germ is rich in vitamin E, which increases sexual energy in human beings."

Mr Kuseltan said he first hit on the idea of special breads in 1972 when he was conducting research at Moscow's Academy of Medical Sciences. Female laboratory assistants noticed that mice and rats fed on a "full-ration diet", including wheat germ and powdered milk, had sleek fur and bright eyes, and some of the workers said they wanted to try the formula.

To help them, Mr Kuseltan developed a recipe for oat-wheat bread but, because of Soviet-era restrictions on private business, never started baking it. Twenty years later, the bread is being produced by Mr Kuseltan's company, Bioprodukt. The firm now produces bread a tonne at a time — 4,000 loaves — and sells them in local shops for 1,000 roubles (20p) a 9oz loaf, more than twice the price of ordinary loaf.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Poll call to African dictators

Paris: A United Nations conference yesterday urged unelected African leaders to go to the polls within two years and asked the international community to withhold aid from dictatorships.

The call came at the end of the meeting in Paris attended by about 500 people, including African government officials. A conference document said the continent had been responsible for "countless failures" since independence, but could rapidly recover if it united and built democracy. *(Reuter)*

Truce refused

Lima: President Fujimori of Peru rejected Ecuador's request for a truce for both sides to collect their dead from 15 days of fighting in their border dispute. He said it was a ploy to gain advantage. *(Reuter)*

Tomb claim

Cairo: An archaeologist has said she has found the entrance to Alexander the Great's burial chamber in an oasis, 450 miles west of Cairo. Digging has been delayed by underground water. *(AFP)*

Ex-MP held

Bangkok: A court has remanded in custody Thanong Siripreechapong, a former Thai MP, until an extradition hearing over a drug trafficking charge in the United States. *(Reuter)*

Off the wall

Paris: Three French towns have banned posters for *Disclosure*, the film about sexual harassment starring Michael Douglas and Demi Moore, because they were too sexually explicit. *(Reuter)*

THE SUNDAY TIMES

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Is Clarke the only brave Tory?

The Chancellor was right: it would be folly to risk being left on the sidelines of Europe, writes the Leader of the Opposition



TONY BLAIR

Kenneth Clarke's speech to the European Movement on Thursday night was a defining moment in this Parliament. It was billed as a speech that would glue together the two wings of a divided party. It was billed too, by the Prime Minister no less, as a speech that would lay out new criteria — over and above those in the Maastricht treaty — which would need to be met before Britain could consider joining a single currency.

It did neither of these things. The reaction of the Euro-sceptics has put paid to Mr Major's hopes that his Chancellor would paper over the cracks for a little while longer. Indeed, Michael Portillo's reaction suggests the gulf in the Cabinet has widened. The "new" conditions appeared to be convergence in the real economy in terms of growth and unemployment, a position close to Labour's.

Mr Clarke has had a good deal of predictable Euro-sceptic opprobrium poured over his head. He deserves credit, however, for having the courage to say what he thinks, and not to blow in the wind.

His stance may be at odds with much of the Conservative Party. He is right, however, in insisting that Britain must not risk becoming marginalised in Europe and that the single currency debate should concentrate on the serious economic and political arguments rather than factional infighting.

It is tempting for this whole debate to be seen as a Tory party pantomime, in which both the central characters and arguments have become caricatures. Kenneth Clarke's speech was inevitably part of that pantomime, as he would recognise, but it was also an attempt to make this a more serious debate, and should be welcomed for that.

Looked at from the narrow party political perspective, the current row may be a benefit to Labour. We ourselves know that the public are wary of divided parties. They do not trust them. If they sense that a party's leaders are more interested in holding that party together than they are in leading the country, that party will fall into disrepute.

It is true that there has been a shift in public mood on Europe. Each step towards closer European co-operation must be the subject of thought and persuasion. Political élites cannot take unquestioning popular support for granted. The ERM experience has left scars. To lock economies together in a single currency area, if there is significant divergence in their underlying performance, would indeed risk instability and unemployment.

But I am clear about the direction in which I wish to lead the Labour Party. If convergence can be achieved, and if other countries go ahead with a single currency, it would be folly not to recognise the dangers of exclusion. In principle, if there is such real convergence, then clearly there could be benefits to our participation given the increasingly global nature of the economy in which we live. My guess — and it is only that — is that a single currency among any European countries is unlikely by 1997, possible by the end of the century and probable at some point in the not-too-distant future after that.

Of course, the final decision is not for now. But determining the principles that will govern that decision is. Indeed, the institutions and procedures are being decided now. If Britain rules itself out of constructive engagement in that debate, it will find, as so many times in the history of our relations with Europe, that at some later stage we may want to join after others have determined the agenda and set the rules.

I am not in the least dewy-eyed either about Europe or about its institutions. There are serious challenges facing both. But I know this country's future lies in Europe, and I want us to lead in Europe and play a strong and decisive role in shaping its future.



In reality the debate in the Tory party is not simply about a single currency, it is about Britain and a vision of its future. That is why it is so fundamental. Their centre of gravity has shifted dangerously. How could they, if re-elected, ever represent Britain in Europe when the discussions on the introduction of single currency get fully under way? It would be a nightmare. Britain's foreign policy would effectively be paralysed. That is the fear written all over Kenneth Clarke's speech.

It was only two years ago that he was telling me across the floor of the House that my views on Europe were "indistinguishable" from his. Until recently, we thought we knew where the Foreign Secretary stood too. Now he declares himself to be an "agnostic", even on the question of whether there could be benefits in a single currency if real convergence existed. This indicates the dangers of sub-contracting foreign policy to the Euro-sceptic wing of the party whose programme, published a couple of weeks ago, would effectively mean British withdrawal from Europe.

In his heart, I believe the Prime Minister may be in the Clarke camp. Remember it was Mr Major who took us into the ERM and, less than two years ago, talked of Britain at the heart of Europe. But now he is the chief hostage in a guerrilla war within his party. His solution is to raise Aunt Sallies such as the risks of rampant Euro-federalism, or an imminent single currency, in an unconvincing attempt to appear tough in knocking them down. This is indicative of the sterile debate to which the Chancellor rightly objects. Britain deserves better. Mr Clarke was right to call for a sensible and open debate. It is one in which the Labour Party intends fully to participate.

Timothy Garton Ash on a fading memory from 1945

A lesson to learn from Yalta

What is most remarkable about this anniversary is how far it has gone unremarked.

Every previous round anniversary of Yalta has seen a spate of articles, and invariably, controversy. On the tenth anniversary, James Cameron found Washington "grappling with a sort of new Crimean War" sparked off by the publication of the American records of the conference. The thirtieth anniversary brought dire warnings that the signature of the Helsinki Final Act would be a super-Yalta. The fortieth anniversary saw furious Soviet-American polemics, with the American columnist George F. Will denouncing "four decades of fraud".

It was not just the anniversaries. Every new crisis in Eastern Europe brought a new Yalta debate. When the Soviet Union invaded Czechoslovakia to crush the Prague Spring in 1968, General de Gaulle blamed it on Yalta. When martial law was declared in Poland in 1981, Helmut Schmidt pointed to Yalta, while François Mitterrand declared that we must "*sortir de Yalta*". And every time the subject came up in Britain, Lord Gladwyn or Sir Frank Roberts wrote to *The Times* to explain how the British at Yalta had made the best of a bad job.

Yalta without end, it seemed. And now, at the half-century, nothing. Not even a letter to *The Times*. The reason is obvious: we no longer live in the Europe of Yalta. The east-west division of Europe which we knew in shorthand as Yalta softly and suddenly passed away, in the space of a single year, from autumn 1989 to autumn 1990. So Yalta has become history in a way that it was not for 45 years until the end of the Cold War.

The opening of the Soviet archives may reveal the chapter and verse of Uncle Joe's masterful duplicity. It will at last enable a history to be written based on the full documents of all the three participant powers. But I doubt if there will be any great revelations. Indeed, the history of the Yalta myths is now probably as interesting, perhaps even more so, than that of the actual conference.

There cannot, for example, be many international conferences which have been the subject of a musical. But in the early 1970s a musical entitled *Yalta! Yalta!* was staged in Zagreb. Its opening lines were: "In February 1945 the leaders of the three great powers met at Yalta to divide the world."

This perfectly summarises the central Yalta myth: that endlessly potent image of the three old men carving up the world like a plum pudding. Historians have long since shown that the truth was — unsurprisingly — a great deal more complicated. Military and political decisions made earlier in the war were more important in determining the fate of central and Eastern Europe.

For Poland, the conference at Tehran in 1943 was probably more fateful. Indeed, Churchill did actually try at Yalta to make up some of the ground which had been explicitly or implicitly conceded before. In the section of the final communiqué devoted to Poland, the abandonment of the legitimate Government-in-exile in London and the effective recognition of the Communist provisional Government imposed by Moscow was hedged about with a contorted formula about the "inclusion of democratic leaders from Poland itself and from Poles abroad". And the new Government was to be "pledged to the holding of free and unfettered elections as soon as possible on the basis of universal suffrage and secret ballot". The final communiqué also contained a grandiloquent Declaration on Liberated Europe, committing the three governments to help "liberated peoples" everywhere to create "democratic institutions of their own choice".

But did this make things better or worse? It is true that on the basis of such passages some opposition leaders in Eastern Europe in the 1980s would call on Moscow not to abrogate but simply to implement the Yalta agreement. At the time, however, it gave what the Polish philosopher Leszek Kolakowski has well called an "ambiguous legitimacy" to the ruthless imposition of Soviet rule on Poland, and elsewhere. The Poles, and others, were not merely to have their hopes of independence and democratic self-government dashed; they were to have them dashed in the name of independence and self-government. This made it worse.

In the interests of keeping together the wartime alliance, reaching agreement on an orderly occupation of Germany, bringing the Soviet Union into the war against Japan and into the new United Nations, of which Roosevelt had such high hopes, the West papered over the cracks with words too important to be used for such a purpose — independence, freedom, democracy — and thus became an accessory to the crime. As so often, Churchill found the best phrase. Writing to Roosevelt less than a month later, he observed that if the liquidations and deportations and "all the rest of the game of setting up a totalitarian regime" in Poland continued, then "it will soon be seen by the world that you and I by putting our signatures to the Crimea settlement have under-written a fraudulent prospectus".

Here, I think, is a lesson of Yalta that outlasts the Cold War. There will continue to be times and regions in which the major powers of the West are not able or not willing to prevent the imposition of dictatorship by force and fraud, the expulsion of ethnic minorities, the new partitioning of territories. Back in the heady days of 1990 we fondly hoped that this might no longer be the case inside Europe itself. What has happened in the former Yugoslavia has quickly proved that hope to be vain. But at least, at the very least, we should not again allow ourselves to give the appearance of legitimacy, even an ambiguous legitimacy, to the triumph of force and fraud. No, *Yalta! Yalta!* should not be revived in Zagreb; nor in Belgrade; and least of all in Sarajevo.

Teresa Gorman and Sir Sandy Wilson, though foolish, deserve some sympathy

The Catch-22 of home improvement

It's been a wonderful week for the property columns. "Bijou converted Tudoresque manor in upwardly mobile Essex. Would suit whipless Tory lady MP hounded by hostile Labour council. Taste for pewter mugs, fake beams and inglenooks an advantage." Or perhaps you would prefer a Gloucestershire property, within lens-and-bugging range of royalty. "Edwardian neo-Queen Anne in style, with extensive stabling and grounds. Ideal for ambitious Air Chief Marshal with scrambled egg on his chest and a weakness for pelmets."

Few sights are so gratifying as that of the great and good on banana skins. Teresa Gorman and Sir Sandy Wilson are humble servants of yours truly. They have drawn the taxpayer's shilling, tossed it in the air and found it has heads on both sides. When rumbled, they adopt a look of pained innocence and cry scapegoat and foul. The Gormans face legal action and even prison for altering their historic house without permission. Sir Sandy, heir to the tradition of Bader and Cheshire, was yesterday shot down for extravagance. His plane cartwheeled into the drink, spewing Axminster and chintz.

Why do they do it? Sir Sandy and his wife clearly thought they had struck gold. The RAF's Haymes Garth mansion had Air Chief Marshal written all over it. The roof and ground floor needed renovation. Mr Rifkind offered £380,000 for the job, with £60,000 for curtains, carpets and "window treatments". The MoD's cost-watchers passed this as state-of-the-art kit, vital for the punishing hospitality missions flown by the modern airman. As Sir Sandy's mentor, Captain Yossarian, would have pointed out, you would have to be mad to fly such missions and not take a free house and £380,000 into the bargain. He forgot Yossarian's Catch-22. Taking them would equally be seen as a sign of madness — if it got out.

I have some sympathy for Sir Sandy. The system he was using is rotten to the core. The public sector is currently incapable of setting anything that would pass for a standard of behaviour to the rest of the nation. MPs last year gave themselves a pay rise of double the inflation rate. When accused of taking bribes, they laughed it off. On Thursday top civil servants stunned all-comers by taking a leaf from the gas and electricity executives' book. They demanded and gracefully granted themselves something called "performance-related" rises of up to 27 per cent. The phrase "performance-related" of the pay of a Whitehall official is wholly meaningless. Civil servants merely want what the utilities executives have got. They know to take their moment: when a Prime Minister is nervy and a Chancellor does not care how much embarrassment he causes the Government. Nobody on earth has the power to stop them.

Simon Jenkins

Those in Sir Sandy Wilson's position are less lucky. His grade of officer was this week awarded just 3.2 per cent (junior ranks must perform equally well on 2.6 per cent). Meanwhile their perks are spread all over the public press. They might be less noticeable were it not for the services' incessant whingeing that they are short of cash. Destroyers are putting to sea with dummy torpedos. Training flights are cancelled for lack of fuel. Yet ministers have had to defend personal cooks for 100 senior officers, foxhunting expeditions for cavalrymen, a corps of gardeners, valets and drivers to service 77 luxury officers' homes.

Ministers cannot pretend they know nothing of this systematic perk abuse, which Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, is too weak-kneed to end. All he can do is wait for *The Daily Telegraph* to publish details, leak that he is "livid" and sack the first person named in the story. This puts an appalling burden on *The Daily Telegraph*. It becomes sole arbiter of what is and is not proper defence expenditure. Perhaps Mr Rifkind might avoid trouble by sending his annual budget round to Conrad Black for prior approval.

The most outrageous feature of the Wilson affair is not the waste — such sums are wasted in Whitehall every week — but that the final whistle was blown not by the defence ministry but by a firm of accountants, KPMG Peat Marwick, whose Sheila Masters charged a cool £100,000. It is a growing habit of the Civil Service to duck accountability by delegating tough jobs to the private sector. £100,000 to describe a £380,000 decorating bill as too high and assign blame is inexcusable. In a more courageous age this job would have been done by a junior official in a week. We are not told which official authorised this grotesque sum, or if he is on "performance-related" pay.

Teresa Gorman's residential embarrassments may prove equally expensive. They were brought to light by her own hand. She wrote a letter to the *Daily Mail* complaining about petty-fogging officialdom. She had "restored" her tumbledown house in an Essex Tudorbethan style and was being hounded from pillar to post by Thurrock Council. Despite her conservationist efforts, the council was accusing her of 60 breaches of planning regulations and threatening fines, demolition, even imprisonment.

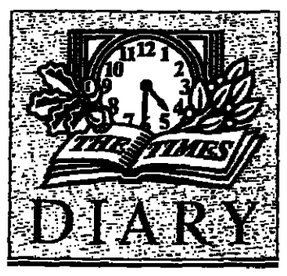
Like Sir Sandy, Mrs Gorman finds herself in the grip of a system not of her making. On all sides, racketeers are wrecking historic buildings without planning permission. Meanwhile honest citizens seeking to rehabilitate the nation's heritage are subject to trivial interference. The Gormans acquired a dump and have made it a handsome homestead. They inserted "authentic" medieval features, including mullioned windows, fake beams and inglenooks. The Bard himself would feel at home in the place. If officialdom is to quibble over every stick of wood or patch of mortar, old buildings will simply fall down and Britain become a land of Wates-built semis.

Here too I have sympathy with the victim. There is a maddening pedantry about planning control, including over the interiors and materials of historic buildings. To see planners fussing over a detail of an old house, while its setting is ruined by a hideous petrol station or villa estate next door is bound to enrage the hard-pressed house-owner. Modern development control sometimes cannot see the wood for the trees — which is not to say it should abandon the trees.

But this defence is not open to Mrs Gorman. She said that she and her husband had been "too busy" to seek planning permission. What sort of excuse is that? Parliament decrees listed building control. Mrs Gorman is a Member of Parliament. She could have argued her alterations with the planners, and gone to appeal if she disagreed with their verdict. When MPs disregard the law, they set a bad example for those wrestling to enforce it, not to mention those who decide to obey it. That mighty inquisition of public taste, Thurrock District Council, must clearly do its duty and force the Gormans to make changes, if only as a warning to others.

The most fitting comment on this ludicrous week would be Mrs Gorman to throw a lifeline to Sir Sandy. He is out of work, and clearly a dab hand at interior design. If the councillors of Thurrock are not keen on Gormanian neo-Tudor, perhaps they could be seduced by Wilsonian neo-Queen Anne. It will not come cheap.

Byter bit



A POLITICS student gossiping on the Internet has fallen foul of Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary. He made defamatory comments about the minister and a Cabinet colleague while talking to fellow computer boffins on the worldwide computer network.

Someone, on some computer somewhere, was monitoring the "conversation" and the unfortunate chap is in hot water. A libel action would make legal history.

A stiff letter from Lilley's office has landed on the desk of Professor Alan Watson, Vice Chancellor of Leeds University. "They were not pleased," says a university spokeswoman. "They wanted to point out that people should not use the Internet for this kind of thing and could be subject to libel."

The university traced the student who had sent his comments into "cyberspace" from a computer terminal at the university. A retraction of his comments was hastily sent out on the Internet along with an apology to the ministers concerned.

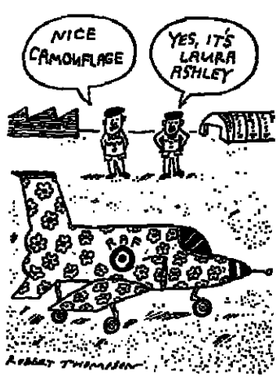
Lilley's office refused to comment yesterday but libel laws surrounding the Internet are vague. There is, as yet, no case history in this country but, with hundreds of thousands of users joining each month and 40 million users worldwide, a deluge of actions is expected.

Golden age

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL Sir Sandy Wilson resigned yesterday after the improvement bill for his home came to £380,000. He would still be at his desk if he had lived in another age: there wasn't any penny-pinching among top brass in Victorian times.

Dr Andrew Lambert, a lecturer in war studies at the University of London, says well-off military leaders were generally able to kit out their troops themselves. "One naval First Lieutenant coated his ship, HMS *Albion*, with gold leaf and silver in 1843. The vessel became known as The Gilded Toy Shop." Perfect for peaceful Mediterranean cruises in the early 1840s, the tub was useless for warfare. It was stripped of all its decorations before joining the bombardment of Sebastopol during the Crimean War.

● *The canine world should brace itself for the latest invention for travelling pets: seat belts for dogs. Hi-Craft, the Liverpool-based manufacturer of the extendable dog lead, has invented harnesses to strap the beasts into the back seat.*



"We're big in ferret harnesses too," says Andy Irving, the managing director.

Rocky meeting

ANDREW Neil comes in for a taste of his own interrogative medicine on Channel Four's *Right To Reply* this weekend. Viewers objected to the grilling he gave sports personality Fatima Whitbread recently on his chat show *Is This Your Life?*

Neil will be asked to justify himself by a couple of viewers and the programme's host, Roger Bolton. Could this be the Roger Bolton who was responsible for *Death on the Rock*, the television documentary about the SAS killings in Gibraltar which Neil relentlessly undermined in *The Sunday Times*?

Euro-silence

LIVELY behaviour can be expected once again from the Young Conservatives, gathering in Southport for their annual conference this weekend. Subjects to be debated include heritage, the constitution and even licensing laws. But Europe is out.

Despite denials from the Young Conservatives' spokesmen, some suspect that Jeremy Hanley, the party chairman, was threatening to boycott proceedings if Europe was on the agenda.

Hanley will be present with other government representatives such as Michael Howard. It will be left to Neil Hamilton, the former minister, who is chairing the conference, and to Lord Tebbit to fly the Euro-sceptic flag.

Match making

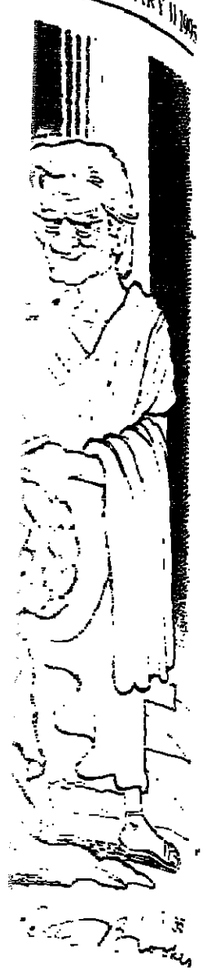
IAIN SPROAT, the Sports Minister, is to be given lessons in belittling opponents, escaping from tight corners and avoiding own goals. On Monday he is to be visited by his Brazilian opposite number Edson Arantes do Nascimento — otherwise known as Pelé.

The world's greatest footballer took up the job of Sports Minister in Brazil last month and is on a European tour. In the light of recent domestic events the two should have plenty to talk about. "There's no agenda, they'll just kick a few ideas about," says a spokesman.



Pelé: political goal-seeker

P·H·S



THE TIMES

THE NEW LEVELLERS

If Major is wrong, the Rowntree report is even more wrong

John Major should have reflected more carefully in Parliament on Thursday when Tony Blair asked him whether reducing inequality was one of the objectives of his Government. The Prime Minister snapped back with a one-word answer: "yes". But if reducing inequality, as an end in itself, were really to be accepted as a major goal of Government, the Tories' record since 1979 would have to be judged a dismal failure.

Labour's attacks were inspired by a report this week from the Joseph Rowntree Trust. Among its more controversial and highly publicised claims was one that "income inequality has grown further and faster in Britain than in any comparable industrial country". Another was that the poorest third of the population had not benefited from rising national prosperity since 1979. Neither of these charges, however, need give Mr Major much of a problem.

The first statement is unsubstantiated, since the study looked at very different periods in comparing changes in incomes in different countries. The claim that inequality in Britain has gone "further" than elsewhere is even more dubious. Although none of the statistics are truly comparable, the latest suggest that Britain is much less unequal than the US and Canada and roughly on a par with Italy and France.

The more sensational claim — that up to 30 per cent of the population, has "failed to benefit from economic growth since 1979" — is simply untrue, even on Rowntree's own statistics. What the report actually shows is that the poorest 10 per cent of the people had about the same cash income after tax, benefits and inflation in 1992 as in 1979. The next 20 per cent enjoyed real gains of between 5 and 10 per cent. Only by deducting housing costs are the figures massaged to reveal that the bottom ten per cent had less disposable income in 1992 than in 1979, while the next 10 per cent stood still. And even after this manipulation, there are gains, albeit small ones, for the next 10 per cent slice of the income distribution.

But for Mr Major, quibbling about statistics is unlikely to blunt the underlying message from Labour. For even if it is false that the poor have got absolutely poorer, or that Britain is more unequal than other countries, Britain has certainly become more unequal than it was. The question for Mr Major is whether he should now promise to "do something" about inequality. Or should he, instead, try reminding Britain that inequality is no vice, provided poverty remains within civilised limits?

To do the latter, he must establish first, that inequality in Britain does remain within tolerable bounds; international comparisons suggest that it does. Secondly, he must point out that the main increase in inequality occurred in the mid-1980s, and started from a point where incomes had been artifically levelled for decades by incomes policies and trade union bullying. Since 1989, there has been little further change in income distribution. Thirdly, and most importantly, he must devise better policies to deal with extreme poverty — not by trying to level society, but by improving the opportunities for employment, removing work disincentives and trying to discourage the formation of one-parent families whose children account for a high proportion of the "new poor".

For the Tories, these are daunting challenges. But there are dangers for Labour, too, in the inequality debate. Gordon Brown pounced gleefully yesterday on the Rowntree report, adding another twist of over-statement to its already exaggerated conclusions: "middle and low-income Britain are worse off" under the Tories, he declared. When the time comes for the next general election, middle-income Britain will examine history more carefully than the Rowntree researchers. They will find that they have become substantially better off since 1979. If Mr Brown keeps denying this, and telling the middle class it has suffered the same impoverishment as the bottom 10 per cent, voters may conclude that Labour still lives in a socialist cocoon, detached from the middle-class world. Labour naturally wants to be the party of compassion, but it cannot afford to be seen merely as the party of the underclass.

INSULT TO ISLAM

Pakistan would shame its own religion by executing Christians

The sentencing of a 14 year-old boy to death in Pakistan for blasphemy is an abhorrent violation of human rights. It has, predictably and rightly, raised a storm of protest. Amnesty International considers Salamat Masih and his 40-year-old co-defendant — also due to be executed — prisoners of conscience, and believes the charges were maliciously brought and unfairly judged; the boy, it notes, was reported to have been illiterate at the time of his alleged writing of graffiti insulting the Prophet Muhammad. Human rights organisations in Pakistan are already speaking of a new intolerance that threatens all religious minorities: Western opinion will be reinforced in its conviction that fundamentalist Islam now represents a great challenge to Western interests.

The reaction was known to Pakistan's judges and politicians even before sentence was passed. Yet they did nothing to discourage the fanatics who intimidated the defence lawyers and nothing to dispel the impression that they acquiesced in judicial outrage to demonstrate their Islamic credentials. As civil order breaks down, tribal divisions deepen, drugs and crime take hold in the cities and a population explosion threatens to overwhelm economic progress, Islam has become the one card that all can play where other answers elude them.

The political exploitation of religion is a potent temptation in a state whose very existence is based on its religious identity. Since the rule of Zia ul-Haq and the introduction of *sharia* law the means to do so has been increased. The blasphemy laws which mandate the death penalty and can be enforced on the word of a single witness is made for abuse. Until now they have been used against heretical Muslim sects; the extension to Pakistan's 2.5 million Christians is a sign that weakened state institutions are now targeting all non-Muslims.

To see fundamentalism as the preserve of the mullahs, the illiterate and the obscurantists is to misread its influence. All Pakistani politicians, motivated as much by personal ambition as ideological conviction, have pandered to its strictures; all have indulged in *pro forma* denunciation of Western secularism; yet all know that with a divided clergy, fundamentalism cannot, in fact, threaten their power as it has in Algeria and elsewhere in North Africa. Benazir Bhutto, for all her Western education and secular background, has to make concessions to Islamic populism and never more so than at the present time, when things are going badly in Kashmir, Karachi is terrorised by rival gangs and ethnic tensions are rising.

This may explain, but does not excuse, the disproportionate savagery of the sentence against Salamat Masih. The Government and judicial authorities may be hoping to have it both ways — appeasing the masses by passing a death sentence, and then appeasing the international community by commuting it as a gesture of clemency. It would be a miscalculation. Even if, as seems likely, the boy's appeal succeeds the damage to Pakistan's image abroad has been done. Enough has been heard recently of the persecution of Christians in Iran, Sudan, Saudi Arabia and other Muslim countries to rouse atavistic Western antagonism to Islam. Pakistan has, by its action, fuelled these dangerous new divisions.

ALEXANDER FOR EVERYMAN

All still talk of the great man, even if they cannot find him



The adventures of Alexander the Great are the longest-running romance in show business. The latest excitement came from a Greek archaeologist who claimed to have found the great man's burial place with the aid of mystical guidance from snakes. Sad to say, this reported tomb at Siwa, in western Egypt, was demonstrated by duller scientists to be Roman and about three centuries too late. But archaeology's loss is, not for the first time, romance's gain.

Before he died at Babylon in his 33rd year, Alexander left two credibly reported messages for posterity. When asked to whom he left his kingdom of the known world, he replied "to the strongest". He added that his prominent friends would stage a vast funeral contest in his honour, in imitation of his Homeric hero, Achilles.

Alexander's funeral contest has been going on ever since, though many years could be were to pass before the strongest could be seen to have emerged. There is in fact no mystery about the terminus of Alexander's corpse. Propaganda destined it for Macedonia or Shiwa, the home of the oracle of his supposed father, Zeus. But the coffin was snatched by his general, Ptolemy, as a trophy to justify his independent control of Egypt. Ptolemy displayed it in Alexandria, where it was last visited by the Roman emperor, Caracalla, and disappeared in the riots of the third century AD. The romance of Alexander has proved more adaptable than that of any other mortal, except perhaps for those of the founders of great religions.

He is a multipurpose legend to which each generation can still attach its contemporary interests. His adventures are told in the Koran, and he appears as an anachronistic Christian in carvings in English cathedrals. The Hebrew tradition saw him as a prophet, the Indians as a magnanimous conqueror, the Persians as alternately a true king and a Satan. Ancient Greeks read him as a Hitler. Until the emergence of Macedonia as a rival state and the discovery of his father's tomb at Vergina, modern Greeks looked down on Alexander as a barbarian.

Any party or race can discover whatever it wants in the romance of Alexander. Egalitarians can claim him as one of them for pouring away a helmet full of water because there was not enough in it for his army of 10,000. Elitists can identify with his treatment of eastern princesses and Indian kings. The recent excitement over his burial place shows that the magic of Alexander still lives, and that our current obsession is with buried treasure and ancient roots. Even though he died 23 centuries ago and was probably Macedonian not divine, Alexander is still the best hero to have on one's side.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Prime Minister's Irish options

From Mr J. M. Maybin

Sir, You rightly pointed out, in your leading article of February 2, "The prospect of peace" [see also letters, February 3, 4, 6, 8], both that there has been no denial from London or Dublin on the substance of the leaked draft and that the assertion from Downing Street that the new North-South body would depend upon an elected Northern Ireland assembly for its authority was possibly issued only as a result of publication of the extracts.

Unionists are distrustful of the Government, and with reason. John Major has climbed down three times. He first refused Sinn Fein's demand for "clarification" of the Downing Street declaration, and then capitulated.

He indicated that Sinn Fein would not be admitted to negotiations until there was a permanent end to violence, and then made a "working assumption" which allowed him off the hook.

He demanded a "decommissioning" of arms and explosives before substantive negotiations could include Sinn Fein, and then neatly transferred the responsibility for "intransigence" on this issue to the Unionists.

There is a distinction between "peace" and "the peace process". While the process may be thrown into some confusion by the disclosure in *The Times*, peace will not. The process is one of horse-trading between Dublin/Sinn Fein/SDLP and the British Government, aimed at giving sufficient concessions to nationalists to prevent the IRA from resuming its murder campaign, but not so many as to cause the loyalists to resume theirs.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. MAYBIN,
11 Perry Park,
Bangor, Co Down.

From Dr Edward Smyth

Sir, I listened with regret to the Prime Minister's ministerial broadcast on February 2, following your publication of sections of the framework document. He gave Unionists reassurances that three locks were in place: the views of local politicians, the people of Northern Ireland, and Parliament. The familiar response to this from Unionist politicians was to veto all attempts at progress and political mediation.

I observe now among the traditionally Unionist Protestant community (from which I come) increasing frustration with this rhetoric, yet at the same time a growing optimism. It appears to me that the politicians, sensing these frustrations and hopes in their own community, may be becoming afraid of the moderation of their people and hence the outcome of a referendum.

They are right to be frightened. The large majority of moderate Unionist and nationalist people would support the essential ingredients hinted at in the partly revealed framework document, increasing cross-border co-operation with safeguards.

If the Prime Minister calls their bluff I believe that he will be pleasantly surprised.

Yours hopefully,
EDWARD SMYTH,
71 Grovehill Gardens,
Bangor, Co Down.
February 10.

From Sir Neil Pritchard

Sir, The peace process involves a complex of serious and strong interests and emotions which stack up on all sides. The effort to achieve progress involves a network of delicate, anxious and complicated negotiations.

Nobody, not even you, would suggest that such negotiations can *all* be conducted in public. Equally nobody has suggested that the negotiations can be completed without moving to full public discussion.

What you have done, however, by printing extracts from the draft of the proposed framework, is to take it upon yourself to decide at what stage in the process the negotiations should become public.

That is why I regard your action as arrogant, and irresponsible; and your self-justification (leading article, February 2) as inadequate.

Yours sincerely,
NEIL PRITCHARD,
Little Garth,
Daglingworth,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire.
February 9.

From Sir Charles Pickthorn

Sir, Our fellow subjects of the Crown in Ulster have been assured that they will not be asked to submit to an all-Ireland body with executive powers. It now appears that they will only be asked to agree to "a powerful new North-South authority over Ulster with powers to deal directly with Brussels".

Obviously there is an enormous difference between an "all-Ireland body" and a "North-South authority". I look forward to Mr Major and Sir Patrick Mayhew explaining this.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES PICKTHORN,
Manor House, Nunney,
Nr Frome, Somerset.
February 7.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Hitting back at 'rude' interviewers

From Professor Emeritus Leslie Collier

Sir, I welcome John Birt's criticism of the standards of broadcast interviews (article, February 4). Certain news presenters constantly interrupt answers to the questions they put. I get the impression that they are less interested in what their victim is saying than in firing off every question on their list before the end of the allotted time. This often leads to the unedifying and distracting spectacle of two people, one of whom may be quite eminent, trying as hard as they can to talk each other down. Cannot interviewers, when necessary, forgo at least part of their scripts in the interest of getting intelligible responses?

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE COLLIER,
8 Peto Place, Regent's Park, NW1.
February 4.

From Mr D. J. Bridle

Sir, If only Brenda Maddox's comments ("Rude? Include us out, Mr Birt", Media and Marketing, February 8) were true, and journalists had only "one voice, which counts for no more than one", and that others were "free to do the same".

Her piece will have been read by, perhaps, a million readers of *The Times*. Most who disagree with her will not have the same means of having their views considered. I am more convinced by John Birt's argument.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. BRIDLE,
9 Yeomans Orchard,
Wrington, Bristol, Avon.

From Mr Brian R. Battersby

Sir, A framed copy of Mr John Birt's most valuable article on the role of journalists and broadcasters should hang on the wall of every radio and television studio, and should stand on the desk of every journalist.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN R. BATTERSBY,
Longdale House,
Wincle, Macclesfield, Cheshire.
February 4.

From Mr Julian Dare

Sir, In the present disputation on the modern media the necessary distinction should be made between destructive criticism which rapidly degenerates into becoming an end in itself, and constructive criticism which is a means to an end beyond itself, namely "the common good".

The contemporary parade of petty ego-trippers on our television screens and airwaves and in the pages of our press is both boring and pernicious.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN DARE,
26 Russell Court,
St Margarets Road, Oxford.
February 4.

From Wing Commander R. Dauncey

Sir, John Birt says "the remedies are in our own hands" — surely they are in his!

Yours faithfully,
R. DAUNCEY,
34 Main Road, Naphill,
High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.
February 6.

Becket's bones

From Dr Michael Straiton

Sir, Readers may be glad to know that the exact whereabouts of the bones of St Thomas of Canterbury are not "known only to a small and determined group of the faithful", as your report alleges ("Search for a saint", February 2). A few have been treasured in a reliquary in the basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome since before the Reformation.

The reliquary is a large one. It contains portions of St Thomas's shin, collar and arm bones, and a portion of the skull. A piece of hair-shirt he was wearing at his martyrdom, and a shirt soaked in the blood are included. Monsignor Canon Dilwyn Lewis, chamberlain and vicar capitular of the basilica, presided over a renewed canonical authentification of the reliquary in 1992.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL STRAITON,
Culver Farm,
Old Compton Lane,
Farnham, Surrey.
February 2.

From the Reverend Mark T. Elvins

Sir, Bones of Thomas Becket have rested at Canterbury since at least 1953, when Prior Thomas Becquet, OSB, of Chevetogne, a collateral descendant of St Thomas, presented St Thomas's Catholic Church at Northgate, Canterbury, with a finger bone of the martyr that may have come originally from the royal collection in France. In the following year a relic of St Thomas's vestment and a piece of bone were given to the same church by Mary Hales of Hales Place, and I have myself recently given the church a small relic of bone.

All these relics, which seem to have come from France and Italy, may be remnants of those given to Pandulf, the Papal Legate, and William, Archbishop of Rheims, who came to Canterbury in 1220 to witness the translation of Becket's remains to the magnificent new shrine behind the old high altar.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
MARK T. ELVINS,
c/o The Priest's House, Tanyard,
Church Lane, Henfield, West Sussex.
February 2.

National Lottery

From Mr David Liddiment

Sir, To date, not one penny has been allocated, let alone spent, of the £161,603,000 of National Lottery takings that has been set aside for good causes. In the spirit of your leading article (January 28), it is precisely because the BBC wishes to show that the lottery will "enhance our national life" that we have incorporated a feature designed to illustrate local charitable activities into every single programme to date.

Last Saturday an estimated 14 million viewers watched the duration of the show, with some 17 million tuning in for the draw itself: a considerably higher figure than your estimate of 10 million and considerably more than the number who chose to remain watching ITV.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID LIDDIMENT
(Head of Entertainment Group,
BBC Network Television),
BBC, Television Centre,
Wood Lane, W12.
February 6.

From Mr Steve Ashworth

Sir, With regard to lottery odds (letter, February 4), I recently wrote a computer program that randomly selected six different numbers from a range of one to 49, arranged them in ascending numerical order and compared them with six random numbers of my choice, again of ascending numerical order. Working on the assumption of one lottery draw per week, my machine runs at the rate of 600 years of draws per hour. After three hours of operation it did not match my selection of numbers.

Furthermore, a friend of mine ran this program overnight on his much faster machine, still without a match of numbers. It seems that becoming a millionaire in virtual reality is just as difficult as in the real world.

Yours faithfully,
STEVE ASHWORTH,
Flat 4, 42 Leicester Square, WC2.
February 5.

From Mr W. Wilkinson

Sir, *The Times* has merely followed Camelot in surrendering to Americanisation (letter, February 7).

My two-week entry in the "National" Lottery shows that it is for "Sat 04 Feb thru Sat 11 Feb 95".

Whose "nation" is it?

Yours faithfully,
W. WILKINSON,
2 Linnet Court, Westfield,
Ashington, Northumberland.
February 7.

On the buses

From Mr T. H. Hughes-Davies

Sir, I hope your headline, "From battleship to bus pass" (February 4), does not mislead Chief Petty Officer Price. If he stays in Portsmouth, he will find that Hampshire pensioners pay their own fares.

Yours sincerely,
T. H. HUGHES-DAVIES,
Slade's Cottage, Breamore,
Fordingbridge, Hampshire.

Vox pop

From Dr Carol Cooper

Sir, Patients turning up at fracture clinics often find their notes ominously stamped with the order "POP OFF ON ARRIVAL" (Colonel Magee's letter, February 8). Fortunately this means only that their plaster of Paris is to be removed before they see the doctor.

Yours faithfully,
CAROL COOPER,
33 Berks Hill,
Chorleywood, Hertfordshire.
February 9.

Hurd and the Dutch

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of The Netherlands

Sir, Writing on February 7, your European Editor, George Brock, refers to my visit to Foreign Secretary Hurd on January 26 ("Pressure grows on Britain to resolve discord on Europe").

Mr Brock quotes unspecified Dutch sources as telling him that I was "appalled" by my talks with Mr Hurd and by his generally negative attitude. I want to state that this is not only totally unfounded, but complete and utter nonsense. I found my talks with Secretary Hurd, which took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, extremely informative and constructive, as I emphasised in my press conference afterwards.

Yours etc,
HANS van MIERLO,
Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken,
Bezuidenhoutseweg 67,
Postbus 20061,
2500 EB The Hague,
The Netherlands.
February 9.

Weekend Money letters, page 31

On Hogarth and Lord Burlington

From Dame Gillian Wagner

Sir, Simon Jenkins ("The pug and the dilettante", February 4) mentions William Hogarth's gift to St Bartholomew's Hospital, but not his far more significant gifts to the Foundling Hospital, of which the artist was a founder governor.

In 1740 Hogarth presented the Foundling Hospital with his greatest portrait, that of its founder, Thomas Coram, and later gave it *The March of the Guards to Finchley* and *Moses before Pharaoh's Daughter*. He also persuaded other famous artists to contribute to the decoration of the hospital, including Alan Ramsey, Charles Brooking, Gainsborough, Reynolds and Wilson. Rysbrach and Roubillac made contributions and Handel (another founder governor) used his music to raise funds for the charity.

By encouraging artists to work for the alleviation of poverty, Hogarth gave a high moral value and brought a new seriousness to art. The collection that he inspired is still complete and in being here, on the original site of the Foundling Hospital.

Yours sincerely,
GILLIAN WAGNER (Chairman),
Thomas Coram Foundation
for Children,
40 Brunswick Square, WC1.
February 4.

From Mr John Harris

Sir, As the organiser of the exhibition at Burlington House, I was delighted by Simon Jenkins's Hogarthian tilt. I feel obliged to point out, however, that the intention of the exhibition was to display for the first time all the visual records of Chiswick — rather than the life and times of Lord Burlington.

I could also wish that Mr Jenkins's tilt had been delivered more accurately. The implication that Burlington's parterres were extending when Hogarth bought the house in 1749 is false: Burlington had stopped gardening by 1740 and had given up any pretension to architecture.

If Burlington's Grand Tour in 1714-15 is remarkable for anything, it is a complete lack of interest in Italian architecture rather than the "obsession" with it alluded to by Mr Jenkins. He did not bring back "Signior" William Kent from Rome until his more serious visit to Italy in 1719.

I, too, would have appreciated the presence of Hogarth and his good dog Trump at the opening of the exhibition. However, the compensation was surely the witty and earthy Kent, who in no way could be described as an "effete" Burlingtonian. Hogarth and Kent had more in common than either painter would have cared to admit. I have no doubt that, from their shared earth in Chiswick churchyard, they are enjoying this exchange.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN HARRIS,
16 Limerston Street, SW10.
February 8.

Beaks in Brussels

From Sir John Weston, British Ambassador to Nato

Sir, Readers who think Brussels dull may like to know of the increasing prevalence of the ring-necked parakeet (*Psittacula krameri*) (also known as the rose-ringed parakeet) in the wild around the capital of Europe. This striking bird, some 16 in long, emerald green and yellow with a scarlet beak and pink and black collar, originated from India in the Sixties but breeds prolifically in these climes and is giving the local magpies a run for their money.

Parakeets feed boldly in my garden. They also make a pretty sight when flying in formation. Last autumn I saw a whole squadron, like miniature Tornado aircraft banking steeply in the evening sunlight, while The Royal Green Jackets (appropriately) were beating the retreat below at Nato headquarters.

On a recent weekend run round Richmond Park, I scored four sightings of the ring-necked parakeet within the hour. Clearly they are good Europeans, and the Channel is no obstacle.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN WESTON,
United Kingdom Delegation to Nato,
Autoroute Bruxelles,
Zaventem, Evère, 1110 Brussels.

Aged in the pot

From Mrs Maureen Nyazai

Sir, Apparently Joanna Lumley, aged 48, is judged "too old" to advertise Müller yoghurt (report, February 3). Am I, therefore, at the same age, to be judged "too old" to eat it?

Yours sincerely,
MAUREEN NYAZAI,
Tile House,
Grosvenor Road, Godalming, Surrey.

A tangled web

From Lord Kilbracken

Sir, Your report, "Gym photos deal keeps Princess out of court" (February 9), refers to "a sticking point, which had been the fly in the ointment on previous occasions".

Was it not the ointment that was the sticking point (at least for the fly)?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KILBRACKEN,
House of Lords.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 10: His Excellency Mr Lars-Åke Nilsson was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Kingdom of Sweden to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy: Mr Mårten Grunditz (Minister Plenipotentiary), Mr Dag Hartelius (Counsellor), Mr Gudmund Naessén (Counsellor and Consul General), Mr Staffan Duhs (Counsellor), Mr Lars-Olof Lundberg (Counsellor), Commodore Count Gustaf Taube (Defence and Naval Attaché), Mr Anders Clason (Cultural Counsellor) and Mrs Siw Warstedt (Labour Counsellor).

Mrs Nilsson was also received by Her Majesty.

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

His Excellency Count Giacomo Attolico and Countess Attolico were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Italian Republic to the Court of St James's.

Mr David Burns was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Finland.

Mrs Burns was also received by Her Majesty.

His Excellency Señor Arturo García and Señora de Garcia were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Peru to the Court of St James's.

The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon visited Aberdeen and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Aberdeen (Mr James Wyness, the Lord Provost).

His Royal Highness visited the Scottish Agricultural College.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor, University of Edinburgh, later attended a Service of Thanksgiving and a Special Honorary Graduation Ceremony at St Machar's Cathedral as part of Aberdeen University's Quincentenary celebrations.

Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 10: The Duke of York, Patron, this evening attended the Lord Trenchard Anniversary Concert in aid of Weston Spirit and the Restoration Fund at St Clement Danes Church, Strand, London WC2.

Captain Neil Blair RN was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 10: The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals, today visited 3rd (United Kingdom) Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment, Picton Barracks, Bulford Camp, Wiltshire.

Mrs William Nunneley was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 10: The Prince of Wales this afternoon visited Aberdeen and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Aberdeen (Mr James Wyness, the Lord Provost).

His Royal Highness visited the Scottish Agricultural College to see the work of the Sustainable Farming Systems Initiative.

The Prince of Wales later attended a Service of Thanksgiving at St Machar's Cathedral as part of Aberdeen University's Quincentenary celebrations and received an Honorary Degree from the University.

Commander Richard Aylard RN was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 10: The Duke and Duchess of Kent this morning visited The Queen's Flight, Royal Air Force Benson, Oxfordshire.

Mrs Julian Tomkins and Mr Nicolas Adamson were in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, President, the Royal Northern College of Music, this afternoon left RAF Benson for Copenhagen to attend the opening concert of the Orchestra's Scandinavian Tour.

Mrs Julian Tomkins was in attendance.



KAMAL KISHORE

The Archbishop of Canterbury talks to a girl who welcomed him in a traditional Indian way in New Delhi yesterday. The archbishop is on a ten-day visit to India

Weekend anniversaries

Today

BIRTHS: Elizabeth of York, Consort of King Henry VII, London, 1465 (she died this day, London, 1503); William Fox Talbot, photographic pioneer, Lacock Abbey, Wiltshire, 1800; Thomas Alva Edison, inventor, Milan, Ohio, 1847; Farouk I, King of Egypt 1936-52, Cairo, 1920.

DEATHS: William Shenstone, poet and landscape gardener, Halesowen, Shropshire, 1763; Jean Foucault, physicist, Paris, 1868; Honoré Daumier, caricaturist and painter, Valmondois, France, 1879; Sir Charles Parsons, inventor of the steam turbine, Kingston, Jamaica, 1931; John Buchan, 1st Baron Tweedsmuir, novelist, historian, Governor General of Canada 1935-40, Montreal, 1940; Sergy Eisenstein, film director, Moscow, 1948.

London University was founded, 1826.

Bernadette Soubirous stated that a vision of the Virgin Mary bad appeared before her, Lourdes, France, 1858.

The first weekly weather report was issued by Meteorological Office, 1878.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher became the first woman leader of a British political party, 1975.

Tomorrow

BIRTHS: Thomas Campion, poet and musician, London, 1567; Jan Swammerdam, entomologist, Amsterdam, 1637; Cotton Mather, Puritan and writer, Boston, Massachusetts, 1663; William Whitehead, Poet Laureate 1757-85, Cambridge, baptised this day 1715; Charles Darwin, naturalist, Shrewsbury, 1809; Abraham Lincoln, 16th American President 1861-65, Larue County, Kentucky, 1809; George Meredith, novelist, Portsmouth, 1828; Marie Lloyd, music-hall singer, London, 1870; Omar Nelson Bradley, American army general, Clark, Missouri, 1893; Max Beckmann, Expressionist painter, Leipzig, 1884; Roy Harris, composer, Lincoln County, Oklahoma, 1898.

DEATHS: Lady Jane Grey, Queen of England May 6-19, 1553, executed London, 1554; Pierre Marivaux, novelist and dramatist, Paris, 1763; Ts'ao Hsueh-ch'in, novelist, Peking, 1763; Immanuel Kant, philosopher, Königsberg, Germany, 1804; Sir Astley Cooper, surgeon, London, 1841; Hans von Bülow, pianist and conductor, Cairo, 1894; Lillie Langtry, actress, Monte Carlo, 1929; Charles Voysey, architect, Winchester, 1941; H.M. Bateman, cartoonist, Malta, 1970; Leon Goossens, oboist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, 1988.

Surrender of French troops who landed at Pembrokeshire, 1797.

Chile's independence was proclaimed in Santiago, 1818.

J.W. Goodrich of Boston, Massachusetts, invented rubber galoshes, 1831.

The first inter-club football match was played at Sheffield between Sheffield and Hallam, 1861.

The Manchu dynasty was overthrown and China became a republic, 1912.

Royal engagements

Today

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Chancellor, will preside at a meeting of the general council in the Senate Room, Old College, Edinburgh University, at 10.25 and afterwards attend a luncheon.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Animal Health Trust, will attend Uttoxeter Race Day at Uttoxeter Racecourse, Staffordshire, at 11.55.

St Philip's School

A Pontifical High Mass was sung by Cardinal Basil Hume at the Little Oratory on February 7 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of St Philip's Preparatory School, Kensington ("Tibbits"). The "Pro Ecclesiae et Pontifice" medal was presented by Cardinal Hume to Mr David Atkinson, former Headmaster of the school.

Service dinners

RN College Greenwich
Commander I.R. Wellesley-Harding, Commander of the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, presided at a ladies guest night dinner held last night at the college. Mrs Justice Bracewell, was the principal guest.

No 16 Squadron RFC and RAF Association
Wing Commander J.W. White, Officer Commanding No 16 (Reserve) Squadron, presided at the 80th anniversary dinner of No 16 Squadron RFC and RAF Association held last night at RAF Lossiemouth to mark the formation of the squadron at St Omer, France, on February 10, 1915.

Dinner

HM Government
Mr Ian Lang, Secretary of State for Scotland, was the host last night at a dinner given by Her Majesty's Government at Bute House, Edinburgh, for Chief Constables of Scotland.

Appointments

The US-UK Fulbright Commission has appointed three new commissioners: Mr Robert Worcester, chairman of MORI, Mr Charles McVeigh, chairman of Salomon Brothers, and Professor Ron Cooke, Vice-Chancellor of the University of York.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon P.J.R. Butler and Miss L.B. Gary
The engagement is announced between Piers James Richard, elder son of Viscount Mountgarret and Lady Howard de Walden, and Laura Brown, daughter of Mr and Mrs Albert Dickens Williams, Jr, of Lake Forest, Illinois, USA.

Mr C.M. Butt and Miss C.R. Waters
The engagement is announced between Christopher Michael, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Butt, of Cheam, Surrey, and Ceri Rhianne, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Colin Waters, of Newport, Gwent, Wales.

Mr C. Byford and Miss L. Kinch
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr Barrie and Dame Hazel Byford, and Laura, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Kinch.

Mr P.F. Cannon and Miss I.M. Boyle
The engagement is announced between Patrick, youngest son of the late Mr Joseph Cannon and of Mrs Annie Cannon, of Kettering, Northamptonshire, and Irene, daughter of Mr and Mrs Edmund Boyle, of Port-na-Blagh, County Donegal, Ireland.

Mr G.S.B. Corbett and Miss L.D. Withers Green
The engagement is announced between Grant, elder son of Mr and Mrs Allan Corbett, of Edinburgh, and Louise, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Withers Green, of Kew, Surrey.

Mr S.J. Gallico and Mrs A.M. Holt
The engagement is announced, and the marriage will take place in March, between Stephen Gallico, of Dulwich, London, and Alison Holt, of Weston Underwood, Buckinghamshire.

Mr C.I. Mason and Miss H.D. Pearson-Kirk
The engagement is announced between Christopher, younger son of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Mason, of Caldy, the Wirral, and Helen, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Donald Pearson-Kirk, of Exmouth, Devon.

Mr D. Plowman and Dr E. Pugh
The engagement is announced between David, twin son of the late Mr Arnold Plowman and of Mrs Plowman, of Lingwood, Norfolk, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Pugh, of Hampstead.

Birthdays

Today

Sir Ronald Arculus, former diplomat, 72; Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Berger, 70; Professor Marilyn Butler, Rector, Exeter College, Oxford, 58; Sir Alec Cairncross, Chancellor, Glasgow University, 84; Brigadier Iain Cameron, 52; Mr T.L. Chambers, paediatrician, 49; Mr James Couchman, MP, 53; Mr C.H. Dearnley, organist, 65; Mr Patrick Leigh Fermor, author, 80; Sir Archibald Forster, former chairman, Esso UK, 67; Sir Vivian Fuchs, former director, British Antarctic Survey, 87; Mr Win Griffiths, MP, 52; Mr Michael Jackson, controller, BBC2, 37; General Sir Jeremy Mackenzie, 54; Mr Leslie Nielsen, actor, 69; Miss Mary Quant, fashion designer, 61; Mr Burt Reynolds, actor, 59; the Earl of Rosebery, 66; Mr Patrick Holmes Sellors, ophthalmologist, 61; Baroness Sharples, 72; Mr Dennis Skinner, MP, 63; Mr John Surtees, former motor cycle and motor racing champion, 61; Mr E.W. Swanton, author and sports commentator, 88; Miss Mary Tregear, Oriental art historian, 71; Mr M.C. Walker, chairman, Iceland Frozen Foods, 49.

Tomorrow

Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Abbott, 53; General Sir John Akehurst, 65; General Sir John Archer, 71; Mr Steve Backley, athlete, 26; Professor A.H. Beckett, former Professor of Pharmacy, 75; Mr Roland Boyes, MP, 58; Lord Brocket, 43; Mr Alexander Carlile, QC, MP, 47; Viscount Chandos, 42; Miss Annette Crosbie, actress, 61; Mr Howard Davies, Director General, CBI, 44; Sir James Dunnett, civil servant, 81; Dr K.J.R. Edwards, Vice-Chancellor, Leicester University, 61; Mr Stephen Gibbs, former chairman, Turner and Newall, 75; Lord Granville of Eye, 96; Lord Greene of Harrow Weald, 85; Mr Paul Hamlyn, publisher, 69; Miss Christine Hancock, general-secretary, Royal College of Nursing, 52; Sir Robin Mackworth-Young, Librarian Emeritus to The Queen, 75; Lord Morison, 64; Lord Moyola, 72; Dame Alison Munro, former High Mistress, St Paul's Girls School, 81; Mr John Raisman, former chairman, Shell UK, 66; Mr Justice Rougier, 63; Mr Fergus Slattery, rugby player, 44; Mr Peter Snape, MP, 53; the Hon Nicholas Soames, MP, 47; Mr Peter Temple-Morris, MP, 57; Sir Aubrey Trotman-Dickenson, former Principal, University of Wales College of Cardiff, 69; Lord Wigoder, QC, 74; Mr Albert Williams, trade unionist, 68; Mr Franco Zeffirelli, opera, film and theatrical producer and designer, 72.

Church services tomorrow

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 11 Choral Euch, The Provost; 4 Choral E.

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 Choral M, If ye then be risen (Poole-Connor); 10.30 Euch, Little organ mass (Haydn), Canon M Kitchener; 4 E, I love the Lord (Harvey), Canon K Parfitt.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: College Green: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Choral Euch, If ye love me (Tallis), Missa brevis (Berkeley), Holy is the true light (Harris), The Dean; 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Byrd), The Bristol Service (Warren), They that go down to the sea (Sumsion), Canon J Simpson.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30, Our Lady Undercroft; 11 S Euch, Missa Festiva (Peeters), The Lord Bless you (Rutter), The Dean; 9.30 M, Quire; 3.15 E, Responses (Rose), Jehova quam multi sunt hostes mei (Purcell); 6.30 Compline, The Archdeacon.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, Prelude on St Peter (Darke), Darke in F, O sacrum convivium (Messiaen), Apparition de l'église éternelle (Messiaen), Canon D Weston; 3 E, Prevent us O Lord (Byrd), Responses (Rose), Stanford in A, Let all the world (Vaughan Williams).

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, Christ the Teacher, Canon D Knight; 11.15 M, Festival Te Deum/Jubilate in C (Britten), O for a closer walk with God (Stanford); 6 Choral E, Responses (Ayleward), Purcell in G minor, O where shall wisdom be found (Boyce), Rev R Cadman.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Choral M, Leighton in D, Canon J Newcome; 11.30 Choral Euch, O magnum mysterium (Vittoria); 2 Thanksgiving; 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Reading), Darke in F, Teach me O Lord (John Hilton); 6.30 ES, Rev H Chantry.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Short Service (Weelkes), Responses (Clucas), I do believe (Croft); 11 S Euch, Chichester Mass (Albright), Tantum ergo (Fauré Rev J Mantle; 3.30 E, Second Service (Leighton), Responses (Clucas), Beatus vir (Carissimi).

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Missa Brevis in C (Mozart), Canon M Sadgrove; 3 German Lutherans; 5.30 E, O Lord the maker (Mundy), Responses (Rose), Coll Reg (Howells), The heavens are telling (Haydn).

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8, 11.15 HC, Mass in G minor (Vaughan Williams), Canon S Pedley; 10 M, Britten in C, Almighty God which hast me brought (Ford), Canon D Hodgson; 3.30 E, Second Service (Gibbons), O where shall wisdom be found (Boyce).

ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL, Aberdeen: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch, Stanford in C, The Provost; 6.30 Choral E, Wills on plainsong tones, The Provost.

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis/The Lord is my Shepherd (Berkeley); Jubilate in B flat (Stanford); 3.45 E, Preces (Amner/Smith), Second Service (Gibbons), I will give thanks (Purcell).

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Mozart in C, Christ whose glory fills the skies (Darke); 4 Choral E, Ireland in C, Zadok the Priest (Handel), Responses (Smith), The Treasurer.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Missa Sancti Nicolai (Haydn), Rev Dr J Begbie; 11.15 M, Responses (Smith), Te Deum & Jubilate in C (Stanford), Teach me O Lord (Attwood); 3.45 E, Coll Reg (Wood), Responses (Tomkins), Thy word is a lantern, Toccata in G (Dubois), The Subdean.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Coll Reg (Howells), Sing praise to God (Lloyd), Come my way (Vaughan Williams), Rev A Walters; 3.30 E, Responses (Clucas), Murrill in E, Hear my words ye people (Parry).

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch, Vaughan Williams in G Minor, The Dean; 3 Choral E, Wood in Eb no.2, Canon M Boyling; 4 HC.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & L; 8, 12.15, 9 Euch, The Dean; 11 S Euch, Schubert in C, Great and marvellous are thy works (Boyce), Ven R Roberts; 3.30 Choral E, Bairstow in D, The heavens are telling the glory of God (Haydn); 6.30 E.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 8, Canon P Strange; 9.30, Messe Solennelle (Langlais), Canon P Strange; 6, Beati quorum via (Stanford), Responses (Ayleward), Sumsion in G, Lobet den Hern (Bach).

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Mass in E flat (Rheinberger), Christus factus est (Anerio), V Rev H Dickinson; 11.30 M, Responses (Shephard), Short Service (Gibbons), Jubilate (Tomkins), O Lord most gracious Lord (Bach), Canon J Davies; 3 E, Responses (Shephard), Blow in F, Ascribe unto the Lord (Travers).

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Choral Euch, Schubert in G, Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré), Tantum ergo (Duruflé), Rev Canon M Kitchen; 3 E, Second Service (Gibbons), Insanae et vanae curae (Haydn), Rev Canon D Atkinson.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, O Nata Lux (Tallis), Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Jesu joy of man's desiring (Bach), The Dean; 6 E, Responses (Radcliffe).

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Little Organ Mass in B flat (Haydn), Ven R Acworth; 11.30 M, Stanford in A, Lauds (Dyson); 3 E, St Mark's Service (Gerald Near), Laudate Dominum (Mozart), V Rev R Lewis.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Rose), Britten in C, Who can express (Wesley), Rev D Burgess; 11.15 Euch, Missa brevis (Leighton), Teach me O Lord (Attwood), Gracious Spirit (Forbes), Sr H Markey; 3 E, Chichester Service (Berkeley), O where shall wisdom be found (Boyce), Canon A Harvey; 6.30 ES, Rev P Ferguson.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30, 7 M; 10.30 SM, Missa brevis (Mozart), Ave Maria (Mendelssohn), O salutaris hostia (Elgar), Toccata in C (Bach); 10 MP; 3.30 V&B, Magnificat primi toni (Bevan), Caro cibus (Mendelssohn).

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10 M, Coll Reg (Howells), Exultate Deo (Palestrina), Toccata (Gigout); 11.30 Euch, Missa Euge Bone (Tye); 3.30 E, Stanford in G, Lord let me know mine end (Parry), The Archdeacon.

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Coll Reg (Howells), Rev Canon R Hockley; 11.30 M, Sumsion in G, Responses (Smith); 4 E, Wood in G, The heavens are telling the glory of God, Rev Canon J Toy; 6.30 Education Sunday.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Choral M, Responses (Byrd), Britten in C, Dyson in F, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), The Dean.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM; 11.30 SM, Rev A Richins.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 MS & HC, Rev Dr J Newell; 10, Gloria in Excelsis (Fevin), Rev Dr J Weatherhead; 11.30 MS, Exultate Justi (Viadana), V Rev Dr J Weatherhead; 8 ES, Rev J Cuthbertson.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch; 11 M, Britten in E, Britten in C, Responses (Byrd), Die Hummel erzählen die Ehre Gottes (Schutz), Ven G Cassidy; 3.15 E, Second Service (Gibbons), And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Rev J Cook.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Spatzenmesse (Mozart), O sacrum convivium (Guerrero), Rev P McGeary; 6 E&B, Dyson in F, O sing unto the Lord a new song (Purcell), Rev P Johnstone.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9, 6.30 C, Rev A Rider; 11, Rev P Weston.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11, Missa aeterna Christi munera (Palestrina), Jubilate Deo (Josquin), Ego cubui et dormivi (Purcell).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC; 10 Children; 11 M, Jubilate (Sumsion in B flat), The secret of Christ (Shephard), Mr S Pryor; 6 E, Rev P Elvy.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 Rev S Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC, Mr T Peek; 11, Informal, Mr T Stilwell; 5, 7.30 Informal, Rev S Downham.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 M, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Jesu dulcis memoria (Dering), 12.30, 4.30, 7 M; 3.30 V & B, Cantate Domino (Hassler).

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 MS, Rev P Hulme.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30, Rev Dr R John Tudor.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 M, Hunt in C, O Lord look down from Heaven (Battishill), Rev A Winter; 6.30 E, Hunt in C, O pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Howells), Rev A Winter.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Jubilate (Walton), Stanford in B flat, Hear my prayer O Lord (Purcell), Canon J Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 M, Ireland in F, O God thou art my God (Purcell).

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11, 6.30 John H McIndoe.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 SM, Missa Simile est regnum (Victoria), Simile est regnum (Morales), Piece d'orgue BWV 572 (Bach).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Victoria), Lord I call upon Thee (Bairstow), The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Garlickhythe, EC4: 10.30 Choral M, English Chamber Choir.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Viadana), Blessed are they that mourn (Brahms), Rev A Meldrum; 6 Choral E, Purcell in e minor, Afferentur Regi (Bruckner).

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP & HC, O Nata Lux (Tallis), Rev S Watson; 6.30 E, Hymn to the Virgin (Britten), Rev D Watson.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family C; 11 S Euch, Darke in F - Ave Maria (Arcadelt), Rev A Shaw.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Rev P Cowell.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, St Martin's Service (Stringer), Benedicite (Stubbings), O God be merciful (Tye), O Lord give Thy Holy Spirit (Tallis), Rev B Schunemann; 11.30 Visitors, If ye love me (Tallis), Responses (Ayleward), My shepherd is the living Lord (Tomkins), Rev J Pridmore; 2.45 Chinese Service, Rev G Lee; 5 Choral E, Responses (Grier), Dyson in F, Hail gladdening light (Wood), 6.30 ES, Taize Prayer, Rev B Schunemann.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 Parish Euch, The Vicar; 11.15 Choral M, Rev F Gelli; 6.30 Choral E, Rev F Gelli.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Parish Euch, Mrs L Dean, Ireland in C, Teach me O Lord (Byrd); 6 E.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Missa Brevis (Ives), Teach me thy way O Lord (Hooper), The Rector.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Leighton), Te Deum (Latham), O taste and see (Vaughan Williams), Rev J Hubbard.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 11 SM, Mass in G (Schubert), Ave verum (Elgar), Canon C Colven.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Responses (Gibbons & Barnard), Second Service (Gibbons), Beati quorum via integra est (Stanford), Prebendary I. Thomson.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, The heavens are telling (Haydn), Rev R S Clarke.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 11 M, Vaughan Williams in G, Jackson in G, In the beginning, The heavens are telling (Haydn); 3.30 E, O Lord the maker (Mundy), Farrant in A minor, Splendente te (Mozart).

ST GEORGE'S CHAPEL, Windsor Castle: 8.30 HC; 10.45 M, Responses (Statham), Jubilate Deo (Walton), Canon A Coldwells; 11.145 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Walton); 3.15 E, Responses (Rose), Gray in F minor, Hear my words ye people (Parry).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis in F (Mozart), Lord How long wilt thou be angry (Purcell), V Rev G MacMillan.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Te Deum (Holst), Achieved is the glorious work (Haydn), The Chaplain: 12.30 HC.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Teach me O Lord (Attwood), Thy word is a lantern (Purcell), The Chaplain: 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, Teach me O Lord (Attwood), Thou wilt keep him (Wesley), Ven M Bucks.

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I shall show myself great and holy and make myself known to many nations. Then they will know that I am the Lord.
Ezekiel 38 : 23 2 (REB).

BIRTHS

CAMPLIN PRATT - On 7th February 1995 to Louise (née Lawrence) and Bill at Norwich Hospital, a son, Robert Michael Norman, a half-brother for Chloë, Joanna, Nick, Jack, Rozzy and May.

CLAYTON - On February 10th 1995, in Worcester, to Alison (née New) and Andrew, a daughter, Olivia Susanna Ruth, a sister for Lucy and Sarah.

COLWILL - To Simone (née Ryan-Kidd) and Nicholas, a daughter Lauren Honour on January 28th 1995.

DALRYMPLE - On February 7th, to Olivia and William, a daughter, Elizabeth Kashmir.

DAVIS - Alexander Maximilian born at The Portland Hospital on 8th February, a son to Dr. Doris (née Lutwak) of Vienna and David Paul Davis of London.

FAULKNER - On 3rd February 1995, to Gary and Charmaine (Pritchard), at The American Hospital in Paris, Edward Theo 'Erp' - 7lbs 2oz and in a hurry. A brother for Max.

HEMINGTON - On February 5th, to Penny (née Strawson) and Guy, a beautiful daughter, Zoë.

LEVEY - On February 10th, to Michaela and Simon, a daughter, Sibella.

MACPHERSON - On February 6th at Kings College Hospital, to Claire (née Niven) and Andrew, a son, Atholl, a brother for Jamie.

SCHOGGER - On February 9th at The Portland Hospital, to Donna and Danny, a daughter, Carly, a sister for Jake and Toby.

SIMON - On February 8th 1995 at Lindo Wing, St Mary's, Paddington, to Tess (née Stopford) and Anton, a daughter, Fleur Megan Margaret, a sister for Charlie and Eugene and always remembering Harry.

BIRTHS

TERRY - Proud grandparents Nina, Alan, Margaret, Tony and Keith of Emily Rose born on February 8th 1995 to Mandy and Marc. God Bless and Thank You.

WOODHOUSE - On February 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Ingrid (née Lehrer) and Christopher, a son, Rory.

DEATHS

CHARD - On February 10th 1995, peacefully at home, Jean. Beloved wife of Ken, mother of Rosemary and Peter, mother-in-law of Steve and Rosie and grandmother of Kari and Julius. Private cremation. Thanksgiving Service at 11.30 am on Wednesday 22nd February at St James's Church, Shere. Donations if desired to Royal Surrey and St Luke's Cancer Appeal, c/o Sherlock & Sons Ltd., Funeral Directors, Trellis House, 190 South St., Dorking RH4 2ES.

CHERNIAVSKY - Claire, beloved mother and twin sister of Andrew and Jean Bullock, died peacefully on 8th February 1995 after courageous battle against long illness. Service to be held, at Lockton, near Pickering, on 17th February at 1.15 pm. No flowers, donations to the M.S. Society please.

CHIN - On February 10th 1995, passed peacefully away at home, after a long illness, Dr. Kwai Chin, F.R.C.P., D.C.H., aged 44, Consultant Paediatrician at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, Surrey. Dearly beloved husband of Queenie and father of Douglas and Alison. Funeral to take place Tuesday 14th February 1995 at Woking Crematorium St Johns, 3.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, for St Peter's Hospital, Childrens Fund. All enquiries to Cyril H. Lovegrove F/D, 32 Guildford Road, Woking, Surrey GU22 7QQ. (01483) 773456.

DEATHS

CROWTHER - Robin, aged 56 years, suddenly on February 7th in Paris. Beloved husband of Alison and father of Juliette. Much loved and deeply missed by his family and friends. A Memorial Service at the American Cathedral, Avenue George V, Paris, on Thursday 16th February at 2.30 pm.

DAVIS - Cyril (aged 87), husband of Caroline, passed away peacefully on Thursday 9th February at The Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead. Very sadly missed by his children, grandchildren, family and friends. Funeral 12 midday Sunday 12th February at Western Jewish Cemetery, Bulls Cross Ride, Cheshunt.

de BURGH - Paddy (née Meehan), suddenly in hospital on 8th February. Beloved wife of Val, and very dear friend of so many. Funeral private, memorial service to be announced. Donations to Emsworth Cottage Hospital. Enquiries (0243) 372255.

GILL - Eunice Lilian "Nikki" died peacefully, after a long illness at Claybury Hospital, Essex, on Tuesday 7th February 1995, aged 83 years. Beloved wife of George and mother of Anton, she will be greatly missed by all her family and friends, and her former colleagues and pupils. Donations in lieu of flowers may be sent to the Alzheimer's Disease Society. The date and place of her funeral will be advised shortly. All enquiries to Co-operative Funeral Services, tel: (081) 801-2343.

DEATHS

GORT - Harold Vincent, on 9th February in hospital. Dearly loved husband, father and grandfather. All enquiries to J.H. Kenyon Funeral Directors. (071) 937-0757.

HARRIS - Elaine Muriel (Babs) of Cheltenham, died suddenly on 6th February at The Gatehouse, Barton-on-Sea, where she had been cared for with great tenderness for the past two years. She was a loved and loving aunt and had a great gift for friendship. Funeral arrangements 0923-825880.

KENDLE - On February 7th, suddenly, Margaret Patricia Mary (Pat) of Walderton, daughter of Colonel G. Kendle Royal Marines and Mrs G. Kendle. Sadly missed by all her many friends. Funeral Service at Racton Church, Chichester, on 15th February at 2.30 pm. Flowers or donations to Racton Church c/o W. Wraight & Son, The Square, Emsworth, Hants.

LONG - On February 8th, peacefully in her 106th year, Adah Violet, for over 62 years the widow of Harold Octavius. Service of Remembrance at St Peter's Church, Limpsfield, on Thursday 16th February at 2pm.

MARGOLYES - Dr. Joseph. Beloved and honoured father of Miriam, peacefully at home in London on Friday February 10th, aged 96.

THE TIMES
NOTICE TO READERS
Our new telephone number for Birth, Marriage and Death announcements is
0171 782 7272 or fax 0171 782 7827

DEATHS

MARSHALL - On 6th February, at Invercargill, New Zealand, after a short illness, Joan Elizabeth, daughter of the late Reverend William Marshall and Mrs Margaret Anne Marshall of Weobley, Hereford.

PHILLIPS - On 10th February 1995, very suddenly and peacefully, John Quintin Stowell, aged 65 years, dearly loved husband of Anne. Funeral Service at Sheffield Anglican Cathedral on Friday 17th February at 1.30 pm.

SAVAGE - On February 10th peacefully in London, Oswald Arthur O.B.E., F.R.C.P., aged 87 years. Husband of the late Katharine Savage. Beloved father of Martin, father-in-law of Elisabeth and grandfather of Caroline and Oliver, and stepfather of Sandy Illingworth and Christine Gerll. He will be deeply missed by all members of his family and by his many friends. Funeral Service at 11 am on Friday February 17th at The Priory Church of St Bartholomew the Great, West Smithfield, London EC1. Flowers to Ballard and Barker Ltd., Funeral Directors, 308 Old Brompton Road, London SW5 (071-370 6271).

SCOTT - On February 9th 1995, aged 78 years, fortified by the Rites of the Holy Church, Father John Gabriel Scott O.B.E. Q.H.C. Chaplain Royal Navy 1946-1971. Most loving and so dearly loved by his family and countless friends. Requiem Mass and Funeral Service at St Francis Church, Hilsea, Portsmouth, on Friday 17th February 1995 at 11 am, followed by cremation at Portchester. Family flowers only, but donations in his memory if desired to the P.D.S.A. or any Animal Welfare Charity c/o Barrells Funeral Directors, 'Lawnswood', 245 Fratton Road, Portsmouth.

DEATHS

STUBBS - Robert Edwin, peacefully on February 6th 1995, in Rochford Hospital, aged 71 years. Funeral Service meeting at Southend-on-Sea Crematorium Tuesday February 14th at 11.45 am. A kind and gentle man who will be missed.

TRAFFORD - Peacefully on February 8th 1995 at Hazelhurst Nursing Home, Bishopswood, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, Anne aged 84 years, formerly of Goodrich Court, Goodrich, Ross-on-Wye. Dearly loved sister of Cicely. Private cremation to be followed by funeral service and burial of cremated remains at St Matthews Church, Marstow, Herefordshire, on Monday February 20th at 2.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to Ernest Heal & Sons Funeral Directors, 5 South Road, Broadwell, Coleford, Glos., tel: (0594) 832169.

WINDSHURST - Henry Vernon on 8th February 1995 after a short illness, aged 91, at Silvermine Village, near Cape Town, R.S.A. Sadly missed by his wife Barbara (née Martin), children Gillian, Hilary, Martyn and Rosemary and their families.

WRIGHT - On February 8th 1995, suddenly, aged 80 years, Alan Edward Ashfield (Ted) T.D., C.Eng., M.I.Mech.E., M.I.E.E., dearly loved by his wife Shirley and son Ronald; sadly missed by his daughter-in-law Janice and other family and friends. Private cremation. Enquiries to Farthing Singleton & Hastings, tel: (0449) 740449.

ZORAB - On Wednesday 8th February 1995, peacefully in her sleep at home, F.M. Wendy, much loved wife, mum and grandma. Will be greatly missed by Bill, Stephen, Mike, Lissa, Bim, Gemma, Jack, Oliver and Emily. Funeral Service on Wednesday 15th February 3pm at Aldershot Crematorium. Family flowers only.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

BUNTER - Ruby May (née Gilmore) - 11th February 1944 - a beautiful and gracious lady so loving and so loved by all especially by David, Michael, Nigel, Alexandra, Matthew, Thomas, Margaret and Joan.

HARDING - Kerry who died in Spain 11.2.94. Love's last gift - Remembrance. M.

IAN GOW - 11.2.37 - 30.7.90. Today our birthday and every day, remembered with love and pride and gratitude. Anne and all his family.

ROLF - Dear Muriel who died this day in 1981. Remembered with love by Jim and Geoffrey.

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION NO 007098 OF 1994 IN THE MATTER OF R.G FRANCIS LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 1st February 1995 confirming the reduction of the share capital of the Company from £320,000 to £166,400 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 6th day of February 1995 DATED this 10th day of February 1995. Wortley Redmayne & Kershaw, Stonebridge House, High Street, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1EY Solicitors for the Company.

LEGAL NOTICES

GRANAT INVESTMENTS LTD (IN ADMINISTRATION)

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of creditors in the above matter is to be held as follows: Venue: Langley House, Park Road, East Finchley, London N2 8EX. Date: 15 February 1995. Time: 11am. (1) to consider my proposals under S.23(1) of the Insolvency Act 1986 and to consider establishing a creditors' committee. A proxy form which should be completed and returned to me by the date of the meeting if you cannot attend the meeting and wish to be represented. In order to be entitled to vote at the meeting you must give to me, not later than 12.00 hours of the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of your claim. NORMAN PAMPEL.

The Administrator, N.N. PAMPEL & CO, HARBEN HOUSE, HARBEN PARADE, FINCHLEY ROAD, LONDON NW3 6LH

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OBITUARIES

STUART DAVIES

Stuart Davies, CBE, aircraft designer and former president of the Royal Aeronautical Society, died on January 22 aged 78. He was born on December 5, 1906.



IN A career which began in the wood and canvas era of the 1920s and extended into the supersonic age, Stuart Davies designed for some of the biggest names in the British aircraft industry: Vickers, Hawker and A. V. Roe. During the war, he played a major role in transforming Avro's unsuccessful twin-engined Manchester bomber into the four-engined Lancaster, which was to become the mainstay of Bomber Command.

After the war, perhaps the most spectacular achievement of the Avro team he led from 1945 to 1955 was the evolution of the revolutionary delta wing concept which led to the Vulcan strategic bomber. First flown in August 1952, this came into service with the RAF's V-bomber force in 1957 and flew its last missions when it bombed the runway at Port Stanley in the Argentine-occupied Falkland Islands in 1982.

Stuart Davies was educated at Westminster City School, from where, at 16, he went to work at Vauxhall Motors. At the same time he continued his education through evening classes at Northampton Polytechnic. In 1925 he joined Vickers as a junior technical assistant in the four-foot wind tunnel at Brooklands.

In the same year he took a degree in engineering at London University. At Vickers he worked on successive variants of the twin-engine Virginia biplane bomber, including the radical weight-saving conversion of it from a wooden to a metal structure.

In 1931 he joined Hawker and became one of the seven-strong design staff under the great Sydney Camm. For the next couple of years he worked on the development of the Hawker Hart and Fury biplane fighters.

In 1933, impressed by Davies's flair for innovation, Camm made him sole member of his new Project Office where, with Roy Chaplin and Camm himself, he made preliminary drawings of what was called the "Fury Monoplane". The aircraft marked a new departure from 13 years of successful biplane manufacture at Hawker's and out of this paper prototype came the Hurricane eight-gun fighter of Battle of Britain fame.

In 1938 Davies became assistant chief designer to Roy Chadwick at Hawker's associated company, A. V. Roe. The design and early construction of the Avro Manchester bomber was under way: an aircraft intended to give some muscle to the RAF's strategic bombing. But, though it had many excellent features — robust construction and a good defensive armament — the Manchester suffered from chronic engine problems and was never popular with its pilots. Two years later it fell to Davies, by then in charge of Avro's experimental department, to spearhead the conversion of the Manchester into the four-engine Lancaster, the first production model of which was first flown at Woodford, Cheshire, on October 31, 1941. It was the first of a production run of 7,377. Between 1942 and 1945 Lancasters were to drop two-thirds of all the bombs dropped by Bomber Command during the war.

From 1944, as chief designer of Avro's shadow-factory at Yeadon, near Leeds, Davies was in charge of the development and production of the York military transport, and at the same time he began work, with Chadwick on the Lincoln bomber — successor to the Lancaster. With the end of the war and the closure of Avro's Yeadon factory, Davies returned to Woodford as Avro's chief designer in succession to Chadwick who became technical director.

Under Davies Avro designed and built a long-range airliner with a pressurised cabin, the Avro Tudor, and the prototype was flown in June 1945. On August 24, 1947, a 60-passenger variant took off from Woodford on a routine test flight, flown by Bill Thorn, Avro's chief test pilot, with Roy Chadwick, Stuart Davies and three other crew-members on board. Tragically, it crashed on take-off, at the aerodrome boundary, through the coupling-up of the aileron controls in reverse. The only survivors were Davies and the flight engineer. Both men were injured but had been saved from death by their positions in the aft end of the fuselage.

On his recovery, Davies led the Avro team in the building of five experimental, single-engined jet aircraft, the Avro 707s, designed to conduct research into the delta wing. The third of these became a one-third scale-model for the Vulcan, perhaps the most famous of the V-bombers which made up Britain's nuclear deterrent force in the 1950s and 1960s. Its feats included, in July 1961, the first non-stop flight from the United Kingdom to Sydney, Australia, 10,575 miles in just over 20 hours at a speed of 527mph. More than twenty years later, in the campaign to retake the Falklands, the Vulcan undertook the longest range bombing missions of the RAF's history, when it raided Stanley airfield from Ascension Island 3,750 miles away.

Among Davies's other designs for Avro were the Athena advanced trainer for the RAF and the Ashton, a jet-engined version of the Tudor, designed for engine, pressurisation, radar and high altitude bombing research.

In 1955 Davies left Avro to join the Dowty Group at Cheltenham as managing director of Dowty Fuel Systems. In 1958 he returned to the Hawker-Siddeley Group, of which Avro was an integral part, as technical director. There, among other things, he was responsible for the management problems inherent in the absorption, by Hawker-Siddeley, of the Brush Electric Group.

During his final eight years, from 1964 to his retirement in 1972, Davies was technical director of Dowty-Rotol, with whom he continued to act as a consultant until 1987. He had been appointed CBE in 1968.

Davies, welcome in many advisory roles throughout the aircraft industry, was president of the Royal Aeronautical Society in 1971-72. In 1935 he married Ethel Rosalie Radcliff. His wife predeceased him and he is survived by their daughter.

A. L. WARR

Anthony Warr, England rugby player and assistant master, Harrow School, 1946-75, died on January 29 aged 81. He was born on May 15, 1913.



IT WAS typical of "Tim" Warr that he should describe himself as the worst three-quarter of his day in the England team, denigrate his ability as a wicketkeeper in spite of nearly winning a Blue and, even though he was an exhibitioner and Kitchener scholar at Oxford, profoundly admire those teachers who dealt with more advanced work than him.

Warr, who became a housemaster at Harrow, was an exceedingly modest man. For 30 years he taught at the school, participating in many of the activities there. He had no desire to become a headmaster, regarding a housemastership as the crown of a good schoolmaster's career.

Anthony Lawley Warr, who was always known as Tim, was educated at Bromsgrove before going up to Oxford, where he was a rugby Blue for two years. As a wing three-quarter, he won caps against Wales and Ireland in the England team of 1934. Before the war, in which he served as a captain in the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars, he taught at Leeds Grammar School and Mill Hill.

In 1945 he returned to teach at his old school for a year. When he arrived at Harrow, he was able to put his deep knowledge of rugby to use by running the 1st XV and planning a new pitch on which a fast, open game could be played. He became master in charge of the gymnasium, ran the mountaineering club and took part in school plays. A keen fisherman and auctioneer, he brought to suburbia a permanent whiff of the country.

During Warr's time at Harrow, there was less importance attached to academic results than is the case today. Harrovians were able to take their place in the outside world with a feeling of certitude. Warr was a sensitive and kind teacher, but like other housemasters at Harrow, he believed in the value of an all-round education with an emphasis on sport.

As housemaster of Rendalls from 1961-73, he did not believe in the green baize door. Boys could come and see him at any time of day or night. He was able to communicate with them as well as he could with their parents, who were plied with sherry at weekends. Warr liked nothing better than to bring out his pipe and tobacco and a string of amusing anecdotes. He was renowned for his sense of humour.

After leaving Rendalls Warr continued to teach at Harrow for two years before retiring, with his wife Phyllis, to Somerset.

In only one respect did he have a high opinion of himself: he stood for certain values and principles which generations of schoolboys dared not question.

He is survived by his wife and two sons.

RACHEL THOMAS

Rachel Thomas, OBE, actress, died in Cardiff on February 8 aged 89. She was born in Pontardawe, West Glamorgan, on February 10, 1905.



Edward Chapman, Rachel Thomas and Paul Robeson in *The Proud Valley*, 1939

RACHEL THOMAS was known in the business as the "Queen Mother" of Welsh actresses. She was certainly the equal, in terms of talent if not superficial glamour, of many actresses in the West End or Hollywood. But Wales, and the Welsh language, were her home and passion and within these self-imposed boundaries she enjoyed a long career in theatre, films — alongside Paul Robeson, Richard Burton, Stanley Baker and Peter Sellers — and later on television and radio.

On screen, she was every inch the Celt, with her black hair, pale skin and strong features, and she exuded a natural warmth and dignity. She could be surprisingly shy in person, though she saw this as just another defect to overcome: "Nid da lla gellir gwell" (Not good when you can do better) was her staunchly-upheld motto.

Her speciality was playing the Welsh "mam". It was a type not so very far-removed from her screen debut in *The Proud Valley* (1939), in which Paul Robeson played a black miner who is protected by the kindness of his landlady, played by Thomas, and her miner husband from the harassment of local bigots: "Blast it, man, aren't we all black down that pit?"

Rachel Roberts, as she was born, was herself the daughter of a miner who fell foul of the mine-owners because of his union activities. The family had no acting tradition but her father encouraged her to sing and to recite at the local eisteddfodau, often walking to them with the young Rachel on his shoulders. From childhood, she spent her spare time reading poetry, great chunks of which she would learn by heart. She attended Ystalyfera County School in the Swansea valley, and briefly became a teacher, before marrying a headmaster, Howell J. Thomas.

She began her professional career in the early 1930s, when she read a lesson from the local church for a radio programme. The BBC was inundated with callers extolling the sensitivity of the reading, and she was subsequently asked to audition for them.

By 1940, with the rapturous reception to *The Proud Valley*, her course was firmly set as an actress. There followed numerous films, notably *Valley of Song* (1953), in which members of a Welsh valley choir nearly come to blows over an interpretation of *The Messiah*; *Tiger Bay* (1959), a superior police chase around Cardiff starring Hayley Mills; *The Captive Heart* (1946), an excellent Ealing drama, set in a German PoW camp; and *Under Milk Wood* with Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton. Her theatre career took her to London — where she played Mrs Pearce in *Pygmalion*.

Television and radio, particularly Welsh-speaking productions, became the staple of her later career. She appeared in the television version of *How Green was My Valley* (1968) and in *Owen MD* (1971). She played Bella, an old woman in a nursing home, in *Pobl y Cwm* (People of the Valley), BBC Wales's daily soap opera which briefly surfaced on BBC2 with subtitles.

She was just as unflagging in old age, whether it was in *Arsenic and Old Lace* at the Grand Theatre in Swansea or playing the gun-toting Sarah in BBC Wales's recent television play, *Whistling Boy*.

In 1968 she was appointed OBE for her services to Wales. The National Eisteddfod also honoured her in 1990, by making her a member of the Gorsedd of Bards.

Her husband died in 1964. She is survived by a daughter.

'NIN' RYAN

"Nin" Ryan, American patron of the arts and hostess, died in New York on January 26 aged 93. She was born in Morristown, New Jersey, on July 4, 1901.

"NIN" RYAN was one of the truly great figures in New York society, but that was not how she regarded herself. Though raised with every conceivable luxury and a life of uninterrupted privilege, it did not occur to her to have a social secretary. In her nineties, she liked to walk home alone through the streets of New York, rebuffing the very idea of a taxi. Nor was she deterred by the idea of going out in the evening, unescorted, to a lecture at the Metropolitan Museum.

Born Margaret Dorothy Kahn — but always known as "Nin" — she was the daughter of Otto Kahn, who had been the principal benefactor of the Metropolitan Opera for many years, and was married to John Barry Ryan — a wealthy man in his own right — in 1928. To the Met she continued to go as if it were her second home. She was active in all its affairs, and was made an honorary director of the house in 1981. One of the great excitements of her later years was the all-too-brief visits to the Met of Carlos Kleiber, a conductor of genius in whom she recognised a spirit as independent as her own.

But perhaps it was in her apartment on East 52nd Street that she was most completely herself. As a hostess, she had an inimitably light hand. Enormously but almost covertly well read and blessed with a profound intelligence that she never paraded, she loved the company of clever men and women.

She also had an irrepressible sense of fun. And, all her life long, she had a delicate gift for flirtation and did not discourage it in others. But it was not her ambition to engineer historic confrontations, political or otherwise. She preferred conversation in which ideas danced but did not thunder.

Rare was the New Yorker, and rarer still the visitor from overseas, who did not jump at an invitation from her. John Pope-Hennessy once wrote: "When in Florence I think about New York, it is Nin's book-lined drawing room, with its view over the East River and its Sisley trembling above the fireplace, that comes first to mind."

In England, she had a whole second life, though she grieved that for tax reasons she was cut off from it for so much of the year. She delighted in the company of her daughter, Virginia, her English son-in-law, the Earl of Airlie, and their children. She had a prodigious and loyal circle of friends here. To see the English establishment turn up in force, together with a sub-section of its American equivalent, there was no better place than her annual cocktail party in London in June, overlooking Green Park.

As a traveller Nin Ryan inherited the audacity which had led her mother to visit Russia with her friend Misia Sert, the Polish confidante of Diaghilev and the subject of many marvellous paintings by Vuillard. In such matters she had her mother's steel and spirit. She would go anywhere and see anyone who was not boring.



In her late eighties, she would set off for Europe on her own and negotiate the high summer crowds in busy airports. To the end she was always on time, with her sense of the human comedy undiminished. She had an inner picture of herself and she liked to live up to it. In that inner picture discipline played a large part, as did curiosity.

But if she was curious, she was also compassionate. She had known great unhappiness, and for many years she had endured periods of intense nervous illness. But she never spoke of these things and, when others were in trouble, no one could have wished for a better friend.

Her husband died in 1966 and she is survived by her son and daughter.

SAM GOLDSMITH

Sam Goldsmith, journalist and former London editor of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, died in London on January 18 aged 84. He was born in Janova near Kaunas, Lithuania, on April 18, 1910.

SAM GOLDSMITH enjoyed baiting the Anglo-Jewish community in which he found refuge from 1939. He also enjoyed arguing with politicians, journalists, writers and philosophers — anyone who could keep a stimulating debate alive.

A journalist from his student days in Lithuania — he edited a school magazine, student paper and went straight onto a Yiddish paper serving the Jews of the Baltic states — he witnessed and reported on the tense nationalistic interwar period on the Continent, including Hitler's invasion of Czechoslovakia. After the war he was the first journalist to enter Belsen and in the first party to enter Dachau. He also reported on the Nuremberg trials.

Writing for a Jewish constituency that was coming under increasing pressure from Fascist parties in the 1920s and 1930s, he kept a close eye on the progress of the Zionist movement. While he admired the right-wing leader Vladimir Jabotinsky, he was more concerned with general progress than party politics.

His great-uncle had been a delegate to the first Zionist Congress convened by Theodore Herzl in Basel in 1897 and he called himself a natural Zionist.

He came to London in April 1939 as a foreign correspondent two days after marrying Sonia Minski. Both came from the same cultured and scholarly background, with a deep knowledge of Jewish and European literature and were fluent in several languages. Hampstead became their home and Goldsmith became a heath-lover, serving in the 15th Company, Hampstead Home Guard, based at a local pub.

With the Nazi invasion of Lithuania and the end of Jewish life there, he wrote for *Reynolds News* at home and for a Jewish daily paper in Palestine.

From 1958 until 1975 he was London bureau chief of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. As a freelance he wrote for various English papers, including *The Times*, and for several leading Israeli papers.

He wrote as prolifically as he spoke, giving lectures and producing numerous collections of essays on the Jewish life that had been lost and the leaders he had met. His style, in whichever language he chose — English, Hebrew, Yiddish, German, Russian and quite a few others — was punchy, humorous and often easier to understand than his heavily accented Lithuanian pronunciation.

His polemics were largely reserved for two particular targets. One was the low cultural level of the native British Jewish population. He delighted in criticising its mistakes in Yiddish grammar and had poor hopes of the new Oxford centre for Yiddish studies — though he campaigned vigorously for the teaching of modern Hebrew.

The other target of attack was the Labour leadership of Attlee and Bevin, whose policies on Jewish aspirations for a national home made almost as searing an impression on him as the unspeakable horrors of the death camps — horrors which he said never left him for the rest of his life.

He leaves a wife and daughter.

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AYLOTT, ZENA MARGUERITE of THE OLD HUNDRED BARN, OLD HUNDRED LANE, TORMARTON, AVON died on 4TH OCTOBER 1994 particulars to INGLEDEW BROWN BENNISON & GARRETT (Solicitors of 82-84 FENCHURCH STREET, LONDON EC3M 4BY (Ref: H S DIXON/A1681) before 12TH APRIL 1995.

FLITTON, David Richard of 65 The Close, Wallington, Surrey, died on 10th January 1995. Particulars of any claims are to made to Rawlence & Hart, Solicitors of 53 Chatsworth Road, Croydon CR9 1LE. Reference: MDH, before 20th April, 1995.

WHITTAKER, ERNEST ALFRED of 43 RODNEY GARDENS, EASTCOTE, PINNER, MIDDLESEX died on 26TH JANUARY 1995 partículars to HAMLIN SLOWE Solicitors of ROXBURGHE HOUSE, 273/287 REGENT STREET, LONDON W1A 4BQ before 17TH APRIL 1995.

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ON THIS DAY

February 11 1887

East Lynne, *Mrs Henry Wood's famous best-seller, said to have "taken off" after an enthusiastic review in The Times, is remembered today if not widely read.*

MRS. HENRY WOOD.

We have to record to-day the death of Mrs. Henry Wood, the well-known authoress of "East Lynne." Mrs. Wood's condition had been such as for several weeks to cause great anxiety to her relatives and friends, and the return of the severe weather, while she was in a critical state, completely prostrated by bronchitis, in addition to a weak action of the heart, proved fatal to her at an early hour yesterday morning. Miss Ellen Price's early life, up to the time of her marriage with Mr. Henry Wood, was passed in the city of Worcester, where she obtained familiarity with the phases of cathedral life which have formed the subject of so many of her stories. Shortly after her marriage Mrs. Wood went to reside abroad, and when living in France her first effort in fiction, in the form of a short story, appeared in *Bentley's Miscellany*, and she was also a frequent contributor to the pages of *Colburn's Magazine*. It was not until 1861 that her first long story—"East Lynne"—was given to the public. It is unnecessary here to dwell upon the character of a book now in its 141st thousand, which has been translated not only into most Continental languages, but also into some Eastern tongues, and in its dramatic shape is being almost nightly performed in different parts of England and France, as well as in the United States. It may not, perhaps, be out of place to mention, as illustrating a defect in the existing law of copyright, that Mrs. Wood never received a single farthing for the dramatic use of the story. After the appearance of "East Lynne," "The Channings" and "Mrs. Halliburton's Troubles" followed in rapid succession, and after 1867, when Mrs. Wood became associated with the conduct of the *Argosy* magazine, many of her later stories were first presented to the public through the medium of that periodical. One of her stories, "A Life's Secret," was in the first instance issued anonymously by the Religious Tract Society in the pages of the *Leisure Hour*, and the appearance of this tale, which dealt with the evil tendencies springing out of strikes and trade unions, so excited the ire of some of the agitators that a crowd assembled outside the publishing office of the society and threatened to break the windows unless the name of the author were given up. Yet from the humblest quarters, as well as on the part of the more educated classes, Mrs. Wood was constantly receiving evidences of the widespread popularity of her works. One of her stories, "Danesbury House," gained the prize of the Scottish Temperance Society. Mrs. Wood's literary activity was also at work for a time in an unsuspected channel, and it was not until 1879 that the identity of "Johnny Ludlow" with the author of "East Lynne" was publicly declared. After the death of her husband Mrs. Henry Wood returned to England, and for many years she resided in the midst of numerous friends in St John's-wood. Her latest literary occupations have been a three-volume story, which is yet to appear, and a paper by "Johnny Ludlow." She leaves several sons and a daughter. Mrs. Wood had been in delicate health for some months, but her physical weakness was for a time overcome by her natural energy of disposition and mental activity.

NEWS

Judge's life sentence protest

■ A judge in Belfast called for the abolition of the mandatory life sentence for murder as he jailed two Scots Guardsmen for killing a teenager in the city.

The two men had been part of a four-man patrol and the victim, Peter McBride, 18, had run away when challenged by another of the soldiers in the group. Page 1

Air chief forced to resign

■ Air Chief Marshal Sir Sandy Wilson, the senior RAF commander forced to resign over the £387,000 spent on renovating his official residence, was given an ultimatum to leave the service or face suspension and an inquiry that could have lasted 18 months Pages 1

Euro battle

John Major was fighting a forlorn battle to hold his Government together after single currency divisions erupted into warfare Page 1

Peer arrested

Lord Brocket, a close friend of the Prince of Wales, has been arrested after a four-year investigation into the theft of classic cars. Page 7

Oyston charges

Owen Oyston, the millionaire publisher, was charged with eight sex offences, including four counts of rape. Page 1

Dresden protest

A neo-Nazi group is planning today to stage an anti-British demonstration in the centre of Dresden during the 50th anniversary commemorations. Page 11

Pensioners saved

Pensioners faced with ruin after Robert Maxwell plundered their pension funds learnt that a deal had been agreed to restore their security Page 1

Religious sentence

The sentencing to death of two Christians for blasphemy has highlighted the increasing persecution of religious minorities in Pakistan. Page 12

Murder in a lane

A farmer's wife had her throat cut in a country lane 400 yards from where her husband and son were working Page 3

Mexican advance

Mexican troops reportedly pushed deep into rebel territory in the state of Chiapas Page 13

Veal arrests

Thirty people were arrested when more than 1,500 veal demonstrators blocked the road to Brightlingsea docks. Page 5

Aid workers seized

Five aid workers were being held by southern Sudanese rebels after the town in which they were working was attacked Page 14

Church giving rises but 'not enough'

■ Worshippers each give twice as much in real terms to the Church of England as their counterparts a generation ago. But the weekly contribution of between £2 and £3 still falls short of the £8 which the Bishop of Chester recommended as appropriate for anyone who could afford tickets for a football game. Page 9



President Nelson Mandela greets Andimba Toivo ja Toivo, the Namibian Minister of Mines, yesterday on Robben Island, off Cape Town, the site of the prison where they were both incarcerated. Page 14

OPINION

The new Levellers: The question for Mr Major is whether he should promise to "do something" about inequality. Or should he remind Britain that inequality is no vice, provided poverty is within civilised limits? Page 17

Insult to Islam: Human rights organisations in Pakistan are already speaking of a new intolerance that threatens all religious minorities Page 17

Alexander for Everyman: Even though he died 23 centuries ago and was probably Macedonian not divine, Alexander is still the best hero to have on one's side Page 17

LETTERS

Prime Minister's options on Northern Ireland Page 17

COLUMNS

Tony Blair: Kenneth Clarke's speech does not succeed in papering over the Conservative cracks Page 16

Simon Jenkins: Teresa Gorman and Sir Sandy Wilson have drawn the taxpayer's shilling and found it has heads on both sides. Page 16

Timothy Garton Ash: Half a century after the Yalta conference, there is nothing ... we no longer live in the Europe of Yalta Page 16

THE PAPERS

Petroleum has proved more of a curse than a blessing to a lot of countries. For every Norway where petrodollars prop up a genteel lifestyle, you can name an Iraq where a dictator splurges on weapons — *Wall Street Journal*

BUSINESS

Eurotunnel: Battered shareholders in Eurotunnel received their latest package of bad news with delays of five months in the full operation of the drive on-drive off service Page 21

Conviction: A former SG Warburg merchant banker was convicted of *manipulating a share support operation* Page 21

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 10.9 to 3109.9. Sterling's index rose from 78.7 to 78.8 after a rise to $1.5607 but a fall to DM2.3785 Page 24

OBITUARIES

Stuart Davies, aircraft designer; **Anthony Warr**, England rugby player and a master at Harrow; **Rachel Thomas**, actress Page 19

SPORT

Cricket: Brian Lara scored 147 in the second Test match against New Zealand in Wellington as West Indies reached 356 for three on the opening day Page 35

Football: Rob Hughes argues against the reintroduction of fences at English grounds despite recent incidents at Crystal Palace, Blackburn and Chelsea Page 40

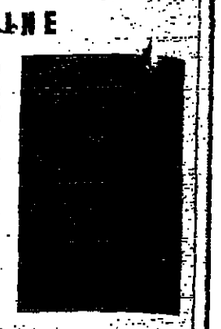
Golf: Severiano Ballesteros held a three-stroke lead after rounds of 68 and 69 in the Canary Islands Page 40

COURTS

After the ban: How drink-drivers can win back that lost licence Page 1

Silent star: Lord Montagu of Beaulieu hails a great British star Page 3

SATURDAY MAGAZINE



The supermen: Iain R. Webb on what gives male models the edge Page 24

Peter Sellers: "It was as though he was trying to inject some permanence into a life condemned to flit from role to role." Alan Franks on the home movies Page 8

Talk Radio UK: Robert Crampton on the station that launches next week to counteract the out-of-touch chattering classes Page 15

Bomb buster: About 2,000 unexploded Allied bombs still lie beneath Germany's feet. John David Morley meets the man who defuses them Page 18

Paris house style: Lisa Lovatt-Smith on the interiors of flea-market enthusiast Isabelle Adjani Page 32

WEEKEND



Fine romance: Lonely hearts find love in *The Times* Page 1

Offers: Take a cruise to the Fjords, page 3; enjoy a feast of Mozart for 20p Page 7

On the scent: 20thcentury perfume bottles Page 10

Hardy annuals: Growing them from seed Page 11

Travel: Maryland crab; Mississippi cruise; snowboarding; Cornwall walk Pages 18-25

Playing the traitor: Stephen Fry talks about George Blake, whom he portrays *Cell Mates* Page 5

"Get yer kit off!" That was what one punter shouted at a West End play. Why can't theatre audiences express their emotions more often Page 5

VISION



Cool sports: Will Channel 4's *Board Stupid* make snowboarding a hot topic? Page 3

New cracker? *Hearts and Minds*, drama from the originator of *Cracker* Page 5

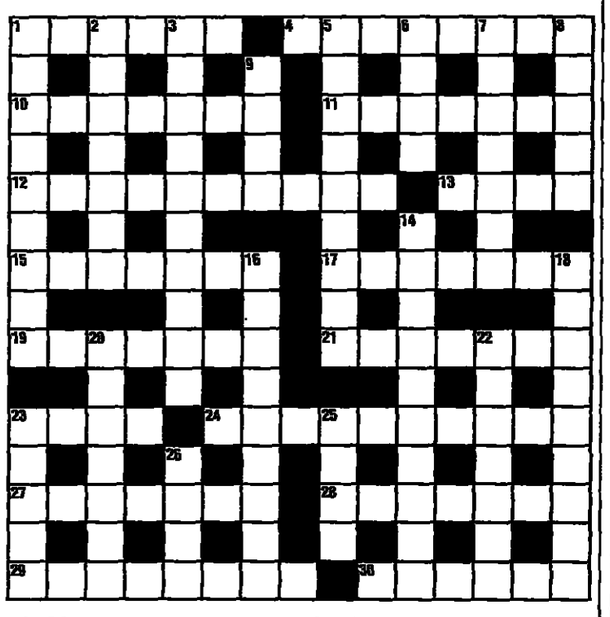
Road movie: Politicians, protesters and a bypass Page 6

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,776

KNOCKANDO PURE SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY

A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a fine leather credit card wallet, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address .....



ACROSS

1 Walton's composition in various keys (6)
4 Examine farm animals brought back in group (5,3)
10 Dismissal concerning many at cricket ground (7)
11 Secretly returned vehicle to girl (3,4)
12 A bunch of characters unaffected by reversal (10).
13 Suspend supporter (4)
15 Some fall for American's old-fashioned beer (7).
17 Sorted out what's indeed significant, centrally? (7)
19 What Holmes sometimes did was dishonest (7)
21 Divine female, for instance, accepting Order of Merit? (7)
23 Strike police sergeant (4)
24 Weapon prophet used in malicious attack (7,3)
27 People generally friendly on the island (7)
28 Somewhere in Wales, as a news broadcast has it (7)
29 Cancel extra trip (8)
30 Permitted inclusion of female character in dictionary (6)

DOWN

1 Upset if given criticism? Able to survive a scorching (9).
2 Old king's capital amounted to plenty (7)
3 Quickly dropping inventor's main exporatory device (6,4)
5 Service vehicles for news organisations (4,5)
6 Stone some lucky Burmese turned up (4)
7 Trim or cut around edges of these (7)
8 Crawler requiring replacement of today's article (5)
9 Like wings a bird has got clipped (4)
14 Having started, missing the target (3,3,4)
16 Engaged on criminal activity – like arms for Ulster (3-6)
18 Race to get into part of vehicle in front of driver (9)
20 Shield one side in action (7)
22 There's something comical in my regal manner (7)
23 Quick sketch, perhaps, for a carving (5)
25 Get ready for a saint appearing in church (4)
26 Moor on river bank (4)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,770

U	N	B	I	D	D	E	N		I	B	E	R	I	A
N		L		U		Y		V		R		E		R
F	L	I	B	B	E	R	T	I	G	I	B	B	E	T
A		N		J		I		C		G		E		I
I	R	K	S	O	M	E		T	R	A	I	N	E	S
R		E		U		O		N		T				
	C	R	O	S	S	B	A	R		D	E	F	E	R
C		E		R		I				R		Y		
A	S	D	I	C		U	N	A	B	A	T	E	D	
S				R		N				N		E		B
C	A	B	O	O	S	E		S	M	A	S	H	E	R
A		O		U		T		H		G		O		I
D	O	W	N	T	O	T	H	E	G	R	O	U	N	D
E		O		E		E		A		S		G		
S	P	R	I	N	G		P	R	E	M	I	E	R	E

Solution to Puzzle No 19,775

S	U	S	P	E	N	S	E		T	U	B	B	E	R
A		U		L		T		O		R		N		
N	O	B	L	E	W	O	M	A	N		E	D	D	A
D		J		C		I		G		A		O		
P	R	A	C	T	I	C	A	L	J	O	K	E	R	
I		C		R		A		Q		U		S		
T	O	E	N	A	I	L		C	H	A	P	M	E	N
		N		N				N		A				
O	U	T	R	A	G	E		A	S	S	Y	R	I	A
N		O		R		L		E		M		N		
C	R	O	C	O	D	I	L	E	T	E	A	R	S	
L		S		W		T		D		L		W		
M	O	O	T		I	N	V	I	G	O	R	A	T	E
S		E		N		M		W		D		R		
S	E	A	D	O	G		M	E	A	N	N	E	S	S

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *J Corper, Sevenoaks, Kent; P S Raderecht, Chippenham, Wilts; M W Hill, Chesterfield, Derbyshire; R Gilmore, Southampton, Hants; B Robertson, Edinburgh.*

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Some	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffd & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute all other times.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
7.23 am	5.08 pm
Moon sets	Moon rises
4.29 am	1.19 pm

Full moon February 15

London 17.08 pm to 7.21 am
Bristol 5.17 pm to 7.31 am
Edinburgh 5.07 pm to 7.46 am
Manchester 5.11 pm to 7.35 am
Penzance 5.33 pm to 7.39 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
7.21 am	5.09 pm
Moon sets	Moon rises
5.10 pm	2.19 am

Full moon February 15

London 5.09 pm to 7.19 am
Bristol 5.19 pm to 7.29 am
Edinburgh 5.09 pm to 7.44 am
Manchester 5.13 pm to 7.33 am
Penzance 5.34 pm to 7.38 am

HIGH AND LOW WATER

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	10:48	5.56	11:07	5.75
Aberdeen	10:42	3.69	11:15	3.70
Avonmouth	3:41	10.13	4:21	10.44
Belfast	7:58	3.03	8:35	2.89
Cardiff	3:21	9.42	3:56	9.45
Devonport	2:20	4.39	2:57	4.39
Dover	8:14	5.28	8:43	5.48
Dublin	8:01	3.52	8:23	3.40
Falmouth	1:45	4.14	2:10	3.88
Glasgow	9:16	3.87	10:30	3.89
Harwich	8:40	3.12	9:11	3.23
Holyhead	7:41	4.60	8:04	4.57
Hull	3:02	5.71	3:36	6.04
Ilfracombe	2:49	6.81	3:23	7.05
King's Lynn	3:28	4.92	3:53	5.04
Leith	11:49	4.55	–	–
Liverpool	6:22	7.44	6:52	7.53
Lowestoft	6:27	2.16	6:48	2.25
Margate	8:43	3.81	9:12	3.97
Milford Haven	3:09	5.22	3:42	5.38
Newquay	2:02	5.05	2:29	5.11
Oban	2:51	2.97	3:45	3.18
Penzance	1:44	4.29	2:10	4.32
Portland	2:24	1.34	3:14	1.26
Portsmouth	8:07	3.91	9:01	3.97
Shoreham	7:54	4.88	9:32	5.00
Southampton	7:48	3.81	8:36	3.85
Swansea	3:14	7.26	3:51	7.51
Tees	0:23	4.09	1:00	4.25
Wilton-on-Nze	8:46	3.10	9:07	3.31

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** Scotland will start wet and brighten, but Orkney and Shetland will stay wet. Rain in Northern Ireland will clear in the morning to give a bright day with showers. England and Wales will start bright in the east then cloud and rain will spread from the west. Rain clearing again in the afternoon and evening.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, Central N:** bright at first, rain spreading from west, heavy for a time. Rain clearing in evening. Winds strong S veering W. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **SW England, S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England:** cloudy, rain spreading from east, heavy in places. Clearing in afternoon. Bright intervals with showers will follow. Winds strong S veering W. Max 10C (50F).

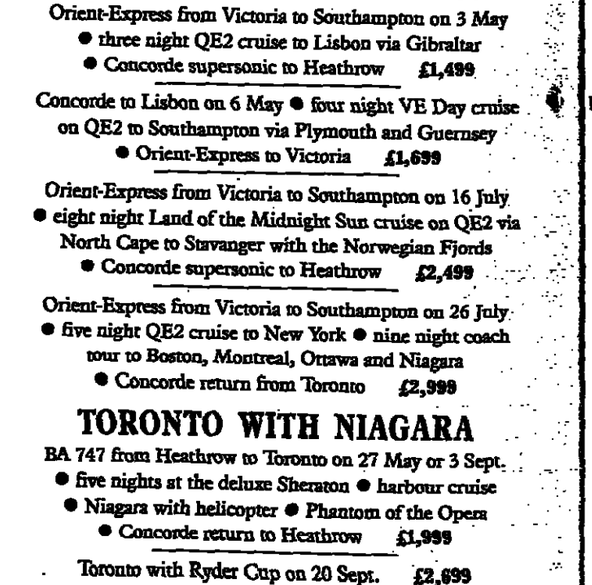
☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth:** cloudy, rain quickly spreading from east, heavy in places, sleet or snow on hills. Rain clearing in afternoon. Bright or clear intervals and isolated showers will follow. Winds strong S veering W. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy, rain or sleet spreading from south, heavy at times. Winds strong to gale E veering later. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** Rain clearing, followed by brighter showery conditions in afternoon. Frequent showers later. Strong S winds veering W. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Outlook:** some bright or sunny weather, but further outbreaks of rain or showers particularly in the north and west.

WEATHERCHART



AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

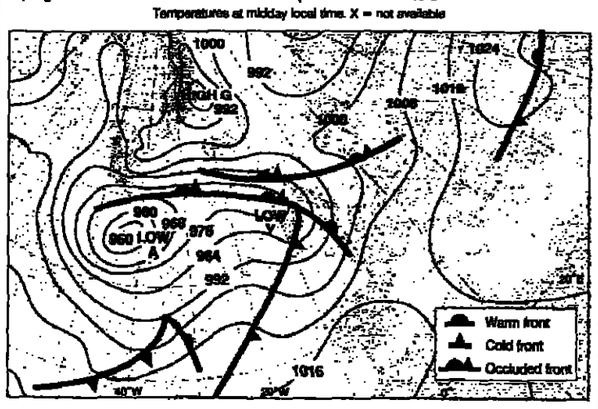
	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	F	
Aberdeen	5.0	0.02	1	34	sn	London	-	-	8	46	c
Anglesey	-	0.03	6	43	r	Lowestoft	2.1	-	5	41	c
Aspatria			3	37	c	Manchester	-	-	3	37	sn
Aviemore	3.7	-	-1	30	s	Margate	-	-	5	41	du
Belfast	-	-	3	37	sl	Minehead	-	0.06	8	46	d
Birmingham	-	0.03	3	37	sn	Morecambe	-	-	3	37	du
Bognor R	-	0.02	7	45	sh	Newcastle	0.4	-	3	37	c
Bournem'th	-	0.03	8	46	sh	Newquay	2.0	0.14	11	52	r
Bristol	-	0.01	6	43	d	Norwich	2.8	-	5	41	b
Buxton	-	0.01	1	34	c	Nottingham	-	-	3	37	c
Cardiff	-	0.08	7	45	r	Oxford	-	0.05	4	39	r
Clacton	-	0.02	8	43	c	Penzance	1.2	0.16	11	52	r
Colwyn Bay	-	0.01	4	39	c	Plymouth	1.2	0.19	11	52	r
Cromer	1.0	-	5	41	c	Poole	-	0.04	8	46	du
Doncaster	-	-	3	37	du	Prestatyn	X	-	3	37	sn
Eastbourne	0.4	0.02	7	45	c	Ross-o-wye	-	0.02	4	39	d
Edinburgh	3.2	-	3	37	b	Sandown	-	0.13	7	45	sh
Eskdalemuir	3.0	-	-1	34	s	Saumn Snd	1.4	-	11	52	b
Exmouth	1.2	0.37	11	52	r	Scarboro'	-	0.02	3	37	sn
Falmouth	X	0.10	10	50	r	Scilly Isles	0.1	0.23	11	52	r
Fishguard	0.2	0.02	8	43	d	Shrewsbury	-	0.04	3	37	sn
Folkestone	0.1	0.11	6	43	c	Skegness	-	-	4	39	c
Glasgow	4.6	-	2	36	s	Southend	0.5	0.25	10	50	sh
Guernsey	3.1	0.03	11	52	b	Southport	-	-	3	37	sn
Hastings	-	0.05	9	48	c	Southsea	-	0.16	7	45	r
Hayling I.	-	0.14	7	45	c	Stornoway	-	0.02	1	34	sn
Herne Bay	-	-	6	43	du	Swanage	-	0.06	8	46	d
Hove	-	-	7	45	du	Teignmouth	1.5	0.36	11	52	r
Hunstanton	-	-	4	39	c	Tenby	-	-	7	45	c
Isle of Man	-	0.02	5	41	r	Tiree	4.9	-	3	37	c
Jersey	3.8	0.02	11	52	b	Torquay	1.8	0.52	12	54	c
Kinloss	2.2	-	1	34	b	Tynemouth	0.6	-	3	37	du
Leeds	-	-	4	39	c	Ventnor	-	0.02	6	43	sh
Leuchars	6.2	-	1	34	s	West-s-mare	X				
Llandrindod	-	-	7	45	c	Weymouth	-	0.13	8	46	r
Liverpool	X	X	3	37	du	These are Wednesday's figures.					

ABROAD

Ajaccio	15	59	s	Corfu	16	61	f	Majorca	17	63	s
Akrotiri	18	64	f	Dublin	7	45	d	Malaga	15	59	c
Alex'dria	20	68	f	Dubrovnik	11	52	c	Malta	19	66	s
Algiers	23	73	s	Faro	14	57	f	Melb'rne	18	64	c
Amst'dm	1	34	r	Florence	10	50	sg	Miami	16	61	s
Athens	18	64	s	Frankfurt	2	36	c	Milan	8	46	c
Bahrain	18	64	s	Funchal	18	64	f	Montreal	-6	23	f
Bangkok	31	88	f	Geneva	7	45	f	Moscow	-6	23	s
Barcelona	14	57	c	Gibraltar	11	52	r	Munich	7	45	f
Beirut	18	64	f	Helsinki	1	34	f	Nairobi	28	82	f
Belgrade	5	41	s	Hong K	19	66	s	Naples	16	59	c
Berlin	2	36	s	Innsbruck	5	41	s	N Delhi	22	72	s
Bermuda	14	57	f	Istanbul	13	55	s	N York	-1	30	s
Biarritz	10	50	r	Jeddah	25	77	s	Nice	14	57	f
Borde'x	10	50	c	Jo'burg	22	72	f	Oslo	-1	30	s
Brussels	5	41	r	Karachi	29	84	s	Paris	9	48	r
Budapest	4	39	s	L Palmas	21	70	f	Peking	4	39	s
B Aires	30	86	f	Le Tquet	9	48	s	Perth	37	99	s
Cairo	21	70	s	Lisbon	13	55	f	Prague	0	32	c
Capa Tn	25	77	s	Locarno	10	50	s	Reykjavik	-1	30	f
Chicago	1	34	c	L Angels	16	59	f	Rhodes	18	64	s
Ch'church	17	63	c	Luxembg	2	36	c	Rio de J	29	84	f
Cologne	3	37	r	Luxor	21	70	s	Riyadh	16	61	s
C'phagn	3	37	f	Madrid	9	48	c	Rome	15	59	s

Salzburg	8	46	s								
S F'isco	12	54	s								
Santiago	28	82	s								
S Paulo	23	73	c								
Seoul	9	48	s								
Sing'por	31	88	f								
St'kholm	-2	28	s								
Strasb'rg	6	43	c								
Sydney	22	72	f								
Tangier	10	50	c								
Tel Aviv	18	64	s								
Tenerife	20	68	f								
Tokyo	7	45	s								
Toronto	-6	21	sn								
Tunis	20	68	s								
Valencia	16	61	s								
Vanc'ver	8	43	s								
Venice	6	46	c								
Vienna	2	36	s								
Warsaw	0	32	f								
Wash'ton	-1	30	c								
Wel'ngton	21	70	s								
Zurich	9	48	s								

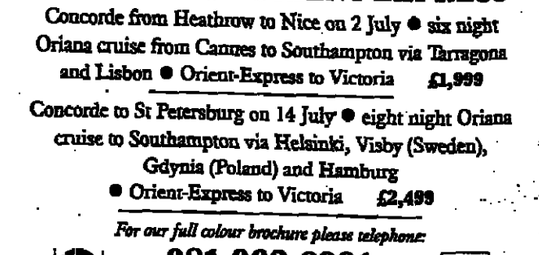
Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart above from noon: low A will start to fill in situ. Low Y will also fill slightly but drift east. High G will decline and edge north

TIMES HEALTHCALL

Thursday: Highest day temp: Saunton Sands, Devon, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, -1C (30F); highest rainfall: Dunkeswell, Devon, 0.67in; highest sunshine: Fishguard, Dyfed, 3.7hr.



QE2 AND ORIENT-EXPRESS

Orient-Express from Victoria to Southampton on 3 May
● three night QE2 cruise to Lisbon via Gibraltar
● Concorde supersonic to Heathrow **£1,499**

Concorde to Lisbon on 6 May ● four night VE Day cruise on QE2 to Southampton via Plymouth and Guernsey
● Orient-Express to Victoria **£1,699**

Orient-Express from Victoria to Southampton on 16 July
● eight night Land of the Midnight Sun cruise on QE2 via North Cape to Stavanger with the Norwegian Fjords
● Concorde supersonic to Heathrow **£2,499**

Orient-Express from Victoria to Southampton on 26 July
● five night QE2 cruise to New York ● nine night coach tour to Boston, Montreal, Ottawa and Niagara
● Concorde return from Toronto **£2,999**

TORONTO WITH NIAGARA

BA 747 from Heathrow to Toronto on 27 May or 3 Sept.
● five nights at the deluxe Sheraton ● harbour cruise
● Niagara with helicopter ● Phantom of the Opera
● Concorde return to Heathrow **£1,999**

Toronto with Ryder Cup on 20 Sept. **£2,699**

ORIANA AND ORIENT-EXPRESS

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Partners in Power at BBA



TUNNEL SIGNAL 23

Air rivals look down on Eurostar



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Chris Boardman on a difficult year in his cycle of life

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11 1995

Former leisure chiefs convicted

BY JON ASHWORTH

A FORMER SG Warburg merchant banker who built one of the Eighties' most aggressive leisure companies was convicted yesterday of masterminding a massive share support operation. Michael Ward, former chairman and chief executive of European Leisure, had been accused of rigging the stock market during the 1990 takeover battle for Midsummer Leisure.

Ward, 46, of Chester Square, Belgravia, central London, was convicted of conspiracy to defraud and three charges of theft involving company money. His "right hand man", Jeremy Howarth, was found guilty of a similar conspiracy charge and four charges of theft. Howarth, 49, of Radclive Manor, Buckingham, Bucks, was deputy chairman and finance director of European Leisure.

They will be sentenced on March 10, along with George Hendry, former operations director of European Leisure, who admitted conspiracy to defraud before the trial. Hendry, 63, of Beverley Drive, Gibbett Hill, Coventry, ran the company's Scottish operations. The two men were released on bail before sentencing.

A Southwark Crown Court jury delivered majority verdicts after spending four nights in a hotel at the end of a four-month trial. Anthony Donne, QC, prosecuting for the Serious Fraud Office, said hundreds of thousands of pounds of company and directors' personal money had secretly been used to support the share price during a takeover battle. He said Ward was ruthless, unscrupulous and greedy. "He was not content building his company up by hard work and honest means, he sought to improve it and his own financial position by dishonest means."

Ward, an accountant, once worked for Morgan Grenfell, and was director of international corporate finance at SG Warburg before founding European Leisure in the late 1980s. All three men had massive personal stakes in the company, in their own names and through family trusts. Changes in the share price directly affected their own fortunes.

The court heard how in 1989 Ward had "set his sights" on Midsummer Leisure, a much larger group. Midsummer's directors supported the bid when it was unveiled in April 1990, but poor results from the Mecca leisure group, sent shock waves through the sector and wiped 20p off European Leisure's share price. The fall left Ward nursing a loss of £1 million.

Midsummer withdrew its support for the bid, triggering a takeover battle in which European Leisure's share price became "absolutely crucial". Mr Donne said Ward began courting support from friends and contacts, deliberately breaching the takeover code in an attempt to create a false picture of the true value of European Leisure stock.

The court heard how sweeteners were used to persuade third parties to buy the shares in an effort to ramp the share price. Ward and Howarth sank more than £90,000 of their own funds into the support operation through Fininvest, a finance company controlled by an Egyptian friend of Ward's who has since moved to the Middle East. Hendry was to hand £110,000 to his friend John Doyle, a Jersey-based taxi driver and bookmaker, towards the purchase of shares.

Ward's former girlfriend Angela Pollard, who handled European Leisure's public relations, used the name of her sister-in-law to invest a further £32,000. Walter Crawford, a Scottish businessman who had done repairs for the leisure company, was alleged to have accepted payments from European Leisure.

Charges against the latter three were dropped on the direction of the judge early in the trial. After hearing the jury's verdicts, Judge Mota Singh, QC, ordered them not to return further findings against Ward and Howarth on an alternative charge of conspiracy to create a false market, and three offences of false accounting against Howarth alone.



ADRIAN BROOKS

Sir Robin Ibbs took shelter from critics in a robust defence of how Lloyds made its profit

Lloyds defends £1.3bn profits

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

LLOYDS BANK defended a 26 per cent rise in 1994 pre-tax profits to £1.3 billion yesterday with an attack on critics who claim the result is excessive and has been achieved by exploiting customers.

Sir Robin Ibbs, the chairman, said: "This is simply not true." He said the improved results came from "tight cost control, concentration on our strengths and a reduction in bad debts".

Staff and shareholders are sharing in the bank's good fortune. Its 43,000 UK staff will participate in a £44 million profit-sharing scheme, paying an average of £1,020, or 6.92 per cent of salary. In 1993, the scheme paid out an average of £785, or 5.65 per cent. Lloyds has also introduced a government-backed profit-related pay scheme that will come into force this year.

The dividend to shareholders was higher than expected, rising 17 per cent to 25.8p. A final of 18.3p is due on May 3.

Bad debt provisions fell to £135 million (£503 million).

Alistair Darling, the Labour Party's City spokesman, used the opportunity of Lloyds' results to criticise the attitude of banks to their customers. He repeated the call for a bank regulator.

The biggest improvement for Lloyds came from its UK retail banking and insurance operation, where profits were 37 per cent higher, at £437 million. Profits in its corporate banking and treasury business rose 8 per cent, in spite of taking a knock from lower bond dealing profits. Lower dealing profits contributed to a fall of £41 million to £112 million in international banking profits before tax.

Sir Brian Pitman, the chief executive, said that the housing market was flat, with a 21 per cent increase in gross new mortgage lending to £1.7 billion coming from increased market share.

WEEKEND MONEY



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INVESTMENT



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BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3109.9	(+10.9)
Yield	4.20%	
FT-SE A All share	1530.47	(+5.05)
Nikkei	18291.35	(+191.80)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3933.02	(+0.34)*
S&P Composite	480.50	(+0.31)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5¼%*	(5¼%)
Long Bond	99¹¹/₃₂*	(97²⁷/₃₂)
Yield	7.68%*	(7.86%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6⁵⁵/₆₄%	(6⁵⁵/₆₄%)
Life long gilt future (Mar)	101¹¹/₃₂	(101¹/₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5628*	(1.5575)
London:		
$	1.5619	(1.5565)
DM	2.3777	(2.3788)
FFr	8.2280	(8.2300)
SFr	2.0075	(2.0115)
Yen	154.32	(153.82)
£ Index	78.8	(78.7)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5215*	(1.5263)
FFr	5.2675*	(5.2910)
SFr	1.2845*	(1.2933)
Yen	98.84*	(98.90)
$ Index	62.6	(62.7)

Tokyo close Yen 98.79

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Apr)	$16.65	($16.55)

GOLD

London close	$376.55 ($376.35)

* denotes midday trading price

Names' victory

A group of names from Lloyd's of London, the embattled insurance market, won a 4½-year legal battle yesterday when the high court ruled that agents had invested their money negligently. The names, from Syndicate 334, now hope to recover up to £80 million in damages. Page 22

MPs support C&G widows over bonus

BY ROBERT MILLER

THOUSANDS of Cheltenham & Gloucester widows are celebrating a victory that could help them to share in a £10 million bonus payout from Lloyds Bank.

In a rare display of cross-party political unity, MPs voted yesterday to send a Private Member's Bill, put forward by Douglas French, Conservative MP for Gloucester, straight to House of Lords. The Building Societies (Joint Account Holders) Bill could be amended by the Lords.

Mr French said: "The chances of C&G widows receiving a bonus have now increased dramatically." C&G said that as long as members voted for the Lloyds deal in March, it was optimistic that the widows could be paid.

GVG tipped to buy Knight Williams

BY ANNE ASHWORTH

SPECULATION is growing that Gerrard Vivian Gray, the stockbroking firm, is preparing to take over the Knight Williams retirement planning group, paying an estimated sum of between £10 million and £12 million.

The parties already have a business link: GVG, which yesterday refused to comment on a prospective takeover, manages about £100 million worth of funds on behalf of Knight Williams, for an estimated fee of £1 million. Knight Williams also stayed uncharacteristically silent.

Knight Williams has been on the market for some months but prospective purchasers, have been deterred by the problems surrounding the company.

Last September, Knight Williams was fined £50,000 by Fimbra, the watchdog, for breaking ten of the body's rules.

After the establishment of a complaints procedure for clients, at least 240 have lodged complaints and are seeking compensation.

Johnson Fry, the fund management group, was among the companies that looked over the sale prospectus but did not wish to proceed because of the possible compensation bill and other associated issues.

Industry sources maintain that there has been pressure from the investment regulators for a sale.

Although Knight Williams applied for membership of the Personal Investment Authority in March, there is still no news on its prospects of success.

Le Shuttle hit by five-month delay

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR



Sir Alastair: principle

BATTERED shareholders in Eurotunnel have received their latest package of bad news from the Channel Tunnel operator, which yesterday announced further delays of five months in the full operation of its Le Shuttle drive on-drive off service.

The news sent the shares sharply into reverse, and they touched 290p before settling at 298p, a loss of 8p on the day. The company said traffic and revenues in 1995 — the year it had been hoped to see full operation of Tunnel services — would now be lower than expected when the company raised £858 million in a rights issue in May.

Le Shuttle, which ships cars and trucks in wagons between Folkestone and Calais, will now reach the level of service forecast for July at the time of the rights at the end of this year, the company said.

In addition, the company is in dispute with British Rail and its French equivalent over the amount it should be paid by the two national railways for its Eurostar passenger service to Paris and Brussels last year. The matter is in arbitration and the sums involved are thought to amount to less than £10 million, but Eurotunnel, co-chaired by Sir Alastair Morton, is believed to regard the issue as a matter of principle.

At the time of the rights issue, the company said revenues for 1995 would be as high as £513 million, but Eurotunnel conceded in October that this total would not be reached. At the same time, the company said that delays would reduce 1994 revenues to a quarter of the £135 million forecast with the rights issue, and that total was yesterday reported at £30.6 million.

The latest disappointment from Eurotunnel has raised fears that further financing may be needed before the Tunnel is entirely operational. The company said yesterday that despite the loss of revenue, net cash at the end of 1994 was just £11 million below the £242 million forecast at the time of the rights.

Travellers stay away, page 23

NORTHERN ELECTRIC
The heart of the North

A new message to Northern Electric shareholders.

David Morris, Chairman of Northern Electric, can be heard on:

FREEPHONE 0800 771177

expressing his views on the bid for Northern Electric by Trafalgar House.

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Names' court win opens way to £80m payment

BY JON ASHWORTH

LLOYD'S of London names won a new courtroom victory yesterday, when a judge ruled that the agents who invested their money during the 1980s had acted negligently. The ruling clears the way for a payment of up to £80 million.

Some 378 names had been fighting for 4½ years to recoup big losses on asbestosis claims dating back before 1975. Their success follows last year's historic Gooda Walker victory in the High Court, which cleared the way for the payment of up to £504 million in damages.

Members of the Syndicate 334 (1985) Names Association had been suing their agents over losses arising in the 1985 underwriting year. They claimed damages for breach of contract and negligence against their members' agents, and negligence against Pulbrook Underwriting Management, the managing agents who selected the risk to be underwritten.

The Syndicate 334 action hinged on a single case of alleged negligence involving the writing of a reinsurance contract in 1981. The policy was declared void in 1990 because Pulbrook had failed to disclose various matters material to the assessment of risk underwritten. That left names exposed to losses estimated at £80 million. The judge, Mr Justice Potter, gave no indication of the size of any award.

Clive Francis, leader of the Syndicate 334 names, hailed the judgment as an "unquestionable" victory which gave hope to other names fighting their managing agents over long-tail insurance claims. Mr Francis, a retired fighter pilot who claims to have suffered losses of £3 million at Lloyd's, said the win "gives me no great pleasure. We're seeing a great British institution dying".

The judgment potentially allows the Syndicate 334 names to recover a substantial part of their losses from managing agents — provided the money is available for distribution. That will depend on the extent of errors and omissions insurance taken out by the agents to cover potential claims. The court case had been given only a 2 per cent chance of success by Lloyd's.

MIKE SCOTT



Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, touring a Philips components plant in Durham yesterday after opening a £16 million extension. It will create an additional 300 jobs and is the first part of a £50 million investment

C&W hopes for Indonesia telecom stake

BY ERIC REGULY

CABLE AND WIRELESS will learn within a few weeks whether it has won the contest to buy a 25 per cent stake in Satelit Palapa Indonesia, a fast-growing Indonesian telecommunications company, for up to $600 million. The purchase would mark C&W's biggest investment outside Britain after Hong Kong Telecom, in which it owns 57.5 per cent.

C&W would not confirm or deny that is it on the shortlist of bidders for the Indonesian company, known as Satelindo. The other main contender, Deutsche Telekom, would not comment either.

Analysts said that Satelindo fits in line with C&W's investment strategy of going after the emerging second player in a high-growth market. C&W, for example, has become the dominant telecoms provider in the Caribbean and holds a 25 per cent interest in Optus Communications, Australia's second largest telecoms provider.

Satelindo, which is only two years old, has licences for satellite communications, through its Palapa satellites, mobile phones and direct-dial international calls.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

BAA in talks to build Philippines terminal

BAA, the airport operator, has confirmed that it is in advanced talks to join a consortium of Filipino businessmen to build a new airport terminal in Manila. The deal, if successful, will be the company's most significant overseas investment to date. The company is expected to take a 40 per cent stake in the project to develop a terminal capable of handling 10 million passengers a year, making it as large as each of Gatwick's terminals. BAA will be working with Asia's Emerging Dragons Corporation, a group of six leading local businessmen.

The group also intends to develop Clark, the former US Air Force Base, as a regional airport north of Manila. The aim is to develop an airport that will be able to handle up to 3 million passengers by the year 2003. A spokeswoman for BAA said the company was extremely keen to develop its interests in South-East Asia. The group is also expected to bid for several of Australia's airports when they are put up for sale in April. The company hopes to complete the joint venture within weeks.

Forte debts to jump

DEBTS at Forte, the hotels group, will leap £460 million in its next set of figures, because of new FRS5 accounting rules on sale and leasebacks. The group has sold and leased back more than 50 hotels, Travelodge Inns and Little Chef roadside restaurants. However, Forte's auditors have insisted that the group take the majority back on its balance sheet. Profits, meanwhile, will be £10 million lower than expected in 1994-95, because of the same accounting standard. Tempus, page 24

CIA in media takeover

CIA GROUP, the fast-growing advertising buyer and planner, has acquired Mansfield Lang Direct Media, a London direct media specialist which focuses on direct response, for up to £2 million. CIA is paying an initial £497,500 in cash and shares, with further payments of up to £1.5 million depending on MLDM's future profit. Ken Mansfield, head of MLDM, and Sharon Lang have signed service agreements with MLDM to stay with the company until at least April 1997.

Arcadian buys hotels

ARCADIAN INTERNATIONAL, the hotels and property group, has completed its acquisition of two hotels for £10.3 million. The purchase of the Mollington Banastre, Cheshire, and the Haycock Hotel in Peterborough, which have a total of 115 bedrooms, has been funded by a £13.8 million placing and open offer. Arcadian said yesterday that the placing has been completed with both new and existing institutional shareholders subscribing for the shares.

Ashanti going for gold

ASHANTI GOLDFIELDS, the Lonrho-managed Ghanaian gold mining company that returned to the London stock exchange lists last year after an international share placing, is sweeping through Africa in search of gold. Yesterday it announced a joint venture with South Africa's Johannesburg Consolidated Investment group to develop the Kalana gold mine in Mali, which closed in 1991. Ashanti has recently established exploration offices in Eritrea and Ethiopia.

Wimpey buys McAlpine sites

GEORGE WIMPEY, the housebuilder and contractor, is paying £43.5 million for Alfred McAlpine Minerals Holdings, a chain of 16 quarries and five asphalt plants with total reserves of 100 million tonnes based largely in Central Scotland and North and South Wales.

The deal places Wimpey Minerals as the fifth largest producer of drystone quarried minerals in Britain and the fourth largest in coated stone.

Joe Dwyer, chief executive of Wimpey, said the quarries, bought from Alfred McAlpine, another quoted building group, are located in regions of the country where Wimpey already operates a minerals business. The group believes, therefore, that cost savings of more than £1 million are possible from the business, which made £1 million in operating profits in the year to December 1993.

Mr Dwyer added: "I am confident that the contributions from our new purchase will at least cover the interest and rationalisation costs in the first year of activity."

For its part, Alfred McAlpine said the disposal was expected to be earnings-neutral, with interest savings on borrowings that would be wiped out by the proceeds of the sale largely covering the lost profits. Any gain arising from the disposal would also not attract tax because of earlier write-offs.

Tempus, page 24

BARCLAYCARD

Notification of an Interest Rate Change

Barclaycard announces a change in the monthly interest rate.

The monthly interest charged will be increased from 1.585% to 1.65%.

This increase will begin to affect transactions made from 1 March 1995 and will be charged and shown on cardholder statements issued from 1 April 1995 onwards until further notice. No interest is charged if the whole of the outstanding balance is repaid and received by Barclaycard by the payment due date shown on the statement.

Barclaycard Reserve announces an increase in the monthly rate of interest charged from 1.585% to 1.65%. Interest at the new rate, calculated on the daily outstanding balance, will be charged and shown on statements issued from 1 March 1995 and thereafter until further notice.

Clause 3(iii) of the Barclaycard Conditions of Use is amended accordingly.

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Accountants suspended for 30 days

CASSON BECKMAN, the accountancy firm, has been suspended from carrying on investment business for 30 days after a partner misappropriated an estimated £2 million from his clients, including Robert Palmer, the rock star (Robert Bruce writes).

The financial services authorisation committee of the English ICA has announced that the firm, which ranks 19th in the UK with total fees of about £21 million a year, has been suspended from February 6. This is the longest suspension the committee can order, but it can apply for further extensions of the ban.

Casson Beckman was inspected by the institute's joint monitoring unit. Marc Voulters, of Casson Beckman, said that "we anticipate a clean bill of health as soon as the institute has completed its review".

The irregularities came to light last December and James Goldring later resigned.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.20	2.03
Austria Sch	17.73	16.22
Belgium Fr	51.88	47.59
Canada $	2.257	2.127
Cyprus Cypf	0.775	0.720
Denmark Kr	9.97	9.17
Finland Mkk	7.90	7.25
France Fr	8.67	8.02
Germany Dm	2.53	2.32
Greece Dr	393.00	368.00
Hong Kong $	12.67	11.67
Ireland Pt	1.05	0.97
Italy Lira	2625.00	2470.00
Japan Yen	168.00	152.00
Malta	0.813	0.558
Netherlds Gld	2.815	2.585
Norway Kr	10.99	10.19
Portugal Esc	256.00	237.50
S Africa Rd	nat.	5.28
Spain Pta	212.00	188.00
Sweden Kr	12.19	11.39
Switzerland Fr	2.14	1.96
Turkey Lira	nstar	91434.5
USA $	1.653	1.533

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank plc. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

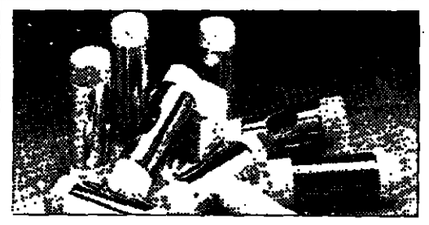
THE SUNDAY TIMES

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This dream is now being realised at Lochranza, where we are opening the first *legal* distillery on the Isle of Arran for over 150 years. The first Arran malt will be coming off the still in the spring of this year.

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Founder Bondholders will have their own exclusive reserve which is obtainable at distillery prices - no retailers or other distributors involved. For the Bond price of £450, excluding duty, they will receive five 12-bottle cases of blended whisky in 1998 and five cases of Arran single malt in the year 2001 – the perfect way to start the new century!

You don't have to take your cases all at once, so you can spread the pleasure over years if you like by leaving your malt to mature even longer in cask. You can also spread the pleasure by sharing the price of a Bond with friends.



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BBA: **Vanni Treves and Bob Quarta**

Quiet lawyer who released the 'Coiled Spring'

The tough stuff is just beginning but the hard man and the soft man are setting about a huge restructuring programme with a will, writes **Susan Gilchrist**

partners in power

When it comes to hard man/soft man routines, there could be no better exponents than Bob Quarta and Vanni Treves of BBA, the engineering and motor components group. Quarta, an aggressive Italian-American industrialist trained at the BTR charm school, is the ultimate hard man. Known as "Bob-the-Knife" in business circles, he is a small, pugnacious individual who looks as though he has stepped straight out of a Francis Ford Coppola gangster film. In sharp contrast, Vanni Treves, cuts a suave establishment figure. A senior partner of Macfarlanes, the blue chip City law firm, he is the epitome of the urbane lawyer.

This unlikely duo came together less than 18 months ago when Treves recruited Quarta to help to turn BBA round. The company was feeling the financial effects of an eight-year spending spree under John White, its previous chief executive, who was widely seen as an acquisition junkie.

It was an awesome task, but Treves had no doubt from the moment he met him that Quarta was the man for the job. "The thing that struck me about him is that he is a self-made man, which I admire enormously. He comes from a humble background — his father was a tailor — yet he was appointed to the main board of BTR, one of our most successful conglomerates, in his thirties." That is no mean achievement to a man like Treves, who, if the truth be known, is something of a BTR groupie.

Quarta certainly got to work in a BTR-like manner. Within months of joining he axed 2,000 jobs, forced through a £77 million restructuring charge — more than twice what the City had been expecting — and pledged to slash the dividend.

Treves insists he never balked at any of Quarta's actions. "We wanted him to be radical and I trusted his judgment. BBA had lost direction and there was a need for a new beginning. When Bob came in and said: 'Right, this is what I think needs doing, do you agree?' by and large we did."

Treves agrees that Quarta is aggressive but thinks that his reputation as a cold and ruthless businessman is undeserved. "The description 'Bob-the-Knife' is just nonsense. He has done no more than you would expect someone in his position to do. He is actually a very fair man and I think there is a very proper streak of sentimentality about him which I applaud." Nevertheless, Treves does understand how Quarta earned his other nickname, "Coiled Spring."

"He does possess a tremendous amount of barely-sublimated energy. One feels that at any time the lid of the box could come off and he could come flying out. But then he is a driven man, who works extremely hard and is extremely ambitious."

In spite of this ambition, Treves says there is no rivalry between them. "He doesn't want my job and I certainly don't want his. As an American client of mine said in another context: 'I don't need the power, I don't need the money and I don't need the aggravation.'"

> "Vanni is a great ally. But he got the horse in so he has to back it"

He believes their contrasting backgrounds in law and industry are a healthy mix. "He is an industrialist to his fingertips. I am not and don't pretend to be. But I do know how the City thinks." He says Quarta is an energetic, hands-on manager who loves rolling up his sleeves and visiting factories. It is hard to imagine the smooth Treves being comfortable in such an environment. While Quarta is a straight-talking businessman, saying exactly what he thinks, Treves is more elliptical. In speech, he is very careful to choose his words, but often to disguise rather than enhance his meaning.

The two do have one thing in common — both were born in Italy, although Treves concedes Quarta is the more typically Italian of the two. "But it means I understand what makes him tick," he adds.

Although they meet nearly every day — Macfarlanes' offices are a short walk from BBA's new headquarters in Fleet Street, central London — they also have a formal get-together every six months to review progress and each other. The last one was, says Treves, a positive affair. And the venue? Appropriately, a small Italian restaurant in New York.

□□□

Bob Quarta was a high-flyer at BTR and was even seen as a contender for the top job. Nevertheless, being chief executive at BBA was an offer he could not refuse. "It had all the makings of the excitement I was looking for," he says, conceding that he is a man who likes large doses of commercial adrenalin.

In spite of his more aggressive style, he warmed to Treves immediately. "I thought he was very distinguished but also laid-back, the type who didn't wear a jacket just to sit around and have a talk."

He instinctively knew they could work together, and he says Treves has been unfailingly supportive, however radical his actions. "I think the size of the rationalisation provision took him by surprise but he recognised it had to be done. Vanni has been a great ally. When you come into a job like this it is lonely and you need someone to talk to. You are coming in and making huge changes but you don't know who you can trust. It's nice to be able to pick up the phone and chat with him. Vanni was always there. But then he was the one who got the horse in, so he has to back it."

He agrees there could hardly be a greater contrast between the two of them. Treves is a classic establishment figure who holds senior positions at the National Portrait Gallery, Royal Academy of Arts and J Paul Getty Jr Charitable Trust along with his business interests, whereas he concedes he is more of a maverick.

"I am unconventional and I often do the unexpected. At BTR I was brought up to take risks but I am not a gambler. It is all about taking calculated risks." He believes the scale of the £77 million provision was a calculated risk, but insists it was the right thing for the business.

Like Treves he rejects the mythology that has built up around him. "I guess some people think I am ruthless because I make tough decisions. Out of the two names, I prefer 'Coiled Spring'. I can't sit still and I get bored very easily. I remember the headhunter who got me into BBA said: 'I have never had an interview like it. I am used to people sitting on the couch to talk, but you got up every two minutes and started walking round the office.' I have always been like that." Quarta also talks at a million miles an hour, a typical trait of those who prefer life in the fast lane.

As a young man he believed this insatiable desire for excitement could be satisfied by becoming an FBI agent. But a spell in the army during the Vietnam War soon opened his eyes. "By the time I got through that I knew government service was not for me," he says.

He tried the business world instead and has never looked back. He believes he would never have got this far if it had not been for the vision of some of his bosses. "I have been fortunate in that I have always worked for people who recognised that I wanted to move faster than normal. In my first job the firm had this 16-week training programme where you went from department to department. Well, I can assure you I didn't last 16 weeks. That could have been disaster because they could have just thrown me out, but fortunately they didn't. I have been lucky that the people above me always recognised I was a little different and always knew when I was about to get bored. Then they just gave me a bit more and a bit more. Vanni is just the same."

He knows that the really hard work at BBA is just beginning. The group still has some way to go in its wide-ranging disposal programme and Quarta has set a target of achieving double-digit margins by next year. While he may have proved he can cut costs, his critics claim he will find it harder to generate growth — an allegation he firmly rejects. "I know some people think I came out of a slash and burn mentality, but when I was at BTR I actually grew businesses," says Quarta. Perhaps he is not just the hard man everyone thinks he is.

TONY WHITE



Vanni Treves, left, chairman, and Bob Quarta, chief executive: different paths from Italy to BBA

Eurostar joins up the capitals but the passengers stay away

Ross Tieman took the train to Paris and found empty seats all around him

High-speed rail services between Britain and France are scarcely three months old, but appear to be on route for commercial disaster.

Many of the 800-seat trains on the London-Brussels route are running almost empty. Between London and Paris loadings are woefully inadequate.

On the 17.48 from London to Paris this week, there were fewer than ten people in my 52-seat coach. Almost all the travellers were French. Returning on the 12.12 next day, less than half the seats were taken.

Not a single flight has been cancelled by the train's airline rivals. Even though London-Paris is the busiest air route in Europe, with 3.65 million travellers a year, the trains, each costing £20 million of taxpayers' money in 1988 prices, have failed to capture any significant proportion of the traffic, despite comparable city centre to centre journey times.

British Airways, which with its partner airlines operates 24 daily flights each way between London and Paris, says the impact of the train has been minimal. A spokeswoman for Air France, which flies 13 times a day in each direction, estimated the drop in numbers at about 7 per cent.

Put simply, the three national railway companies that are partners in the Eurostar service have introduced too much capacity and made too little effort to sell it.

The Eurostar trains are twice the size of conventional high-speed trains, comprising two power cars and 18 coaches offering almost 800 seats. Four trains are running every weekday to Paris, and three to Brussels, with the same number coming back.

This is a very large rise in capacity on these routes. Civil Aviation Authority figures show that during 1993 an average of 9,990 passengers travelled from London to Paris every day.

Eurostar is now offering 3,200 seats a day on that route — an extremely lumpy increase in capacity. But how many passengers are likely to switch?

Air France says 60 per cent of its London-Paris travellers are connecting with onward flights. BA's figure is about 40 per cent. So in real terms, Eurostar's four daily trains to Paris have multiplied city-centre to city-centre capacity on the route from around 5,000 passengers to about 8,200.

British Midland, another competitor, estimates that in the long term, the airlines may lose 20 per cent of their traffic. If so, Eurostar is already offering more capacity than it needs to win its long-term market share.

From London to Brussels, the scenario is even worse. Air traffic between London and Brussels during 1993 was 1,159,855 passengers, an average of 1,589 travellers from London each day. Eurostar's three daily trains offer 2,400 seats. No wonder they are empty.

Eurostar may hesitate to sell its services too heavily until mechanical reliability is assured. But if the three-nation consortium is to stem its mounting losses, sooner or later it must make a serious effort to attract huge numbers of new travellers to both routes.

Will it do so? The omens are poor. Although the experience of travelling from the centre of London to the centre of Paris compares favourably with the journey by air, for economy passengers the airlines win easily on frequency, price and service. British Midland offers hot towels, free food, free drinks and the chance to shop duty free for £68 plus £7.40 in taxes. Its rivals are little dearer.

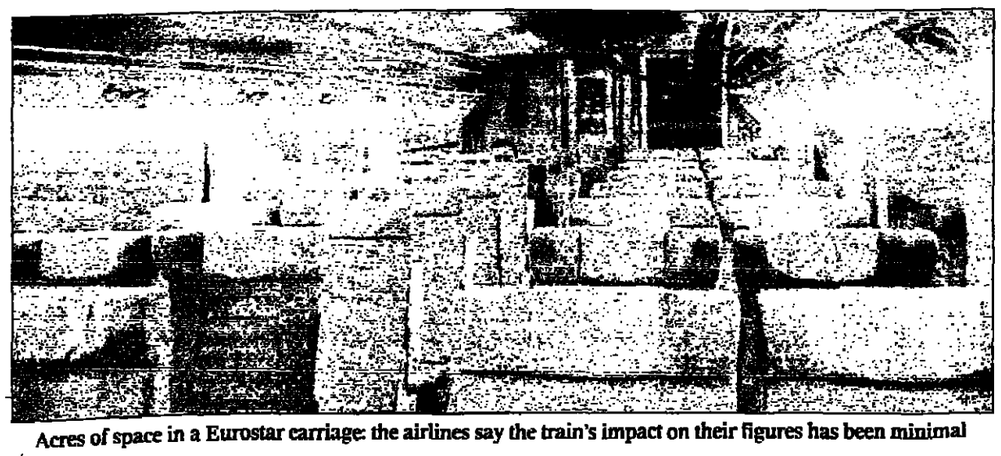
The train's minimum fare is £95 return. In-transit service is an infrequent, and expensive, drinks trolley. There is no entertainment, no cosseting.

A "fully-flexible" second-class ticket costs £155, although staff say that if you change your return reservation in Paris, you will have to buy a new ticket, and claim a refund later.

But a first class return fare of £195, including free five course meal and drinks each way, compares favourably with the £250 equivalent from Air France.

Eurostar is concentrating on the wrong market. It is price-cutting on first class fares, perhaps to compensate for its infrequent services. But instead of trying to create a new market by offering high standard economy travel at low prices, it is charging more than the airlines, for an inferior service. Even more astounding, it is rationing the cheap seats, preferring to haul empty trains. This is madness.

Eurostar should have bought more, much smaller trains with in-transit entertainment. Only one strategy will save it now. Having piled seats high, it must sell 'em cheap.



Acres of space in a Eurostar carriage: the airlines say the train's impact on their figures has been minimal

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Money Observer, January 1995

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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

United Biscuits jumps as suitors are sighted

IT LOOKS as though the long-awaited bid for **United Biscuits**, the McVitie's, KP and Crawfords food group, may finally be on the way. Its shares stood out in late trading with a leap of 23p to 365p, giving the company a stock market value of almost £2 billion. This compares with a price of 305p back in October.

By the close of business last night more than 3.5 million shares had changed hands with further heavy trading taking place on the traded options market, where more than 700 call options were completed, equivalent to 700,000 shares. Much of the call activity was focused on the February 360p series which expires next week. Speculators were paying 2½p for the out-of-the money options.

UB is seen by fund managers as the most eligible takeover target on the London stock market because of its strong brand names. They say it is not a question of when the company is bid for, but by whom. The speculators say an opening shot of at least 400p a share will be required.

Front-runner among the bidders remains Nestlé, the Swiss food group, which in the mid-eighties bought Rowntree Macintosh. Other predators are said to include Danone from France, Philip Morris, the US food and tobacco group, **Hanson**, up 2p at 245p ahead of figures next week, and an Austrian food group.

Share prices generally recovered from a hesitant start to extend Thursday's strong gains and breach the 3,100 level. The FT-SE 100 index up almost 16 points early on, eventually reduced its lead to 10.9 at 3,109.9, a rise on the week of 50.2.

Investors took the latest US inflation numbers in their stride, but prices showed signs of running out of steam towards the close after confirmation of the latest gilts auction and an opening fall on Wall Street. Turnover slipped below the level of recent days with a total of 555 million shares traded.

Lloyds Bank kicked off the dividend season for the Big Four Banks with full-year figures bang in line with City expectations. Pre-tax profits advanced from £1.03 billion to £1.3 billion, helped by a sharp drop in bad debt provisions from £503 million to £135 million and a cost-cutting programme. The total dividend was raised 17 per cent to 25.8p. Brokers described underlying profits growth as disappointing, although there were signs of a pick-up in lending. This did not deter investors, with the shares adding 15p at 565p. **Lloyds Abbey Life**, its 63 per cent separately quoted offshoot which reported earlier this week, was unchanged at 357p. The rest of the banks posted modest gains, with **Abbey National** 3p better at 440p, **Bank of Scotland** 5p to 209p, **Barclays** 13p to 616p, **National Westminster** 19½p to 509½p, and **Royal Bank of Scotland** 11p to 420p.

There are signs of recovery among the supermarket chains as **Tesco** confirmed City speculation and launched an electronic loyalty card enabling customers to accrue points to take advantage of discounts on future spending. The Clubcard will be launched on Monday, allowing shoppers to clockup points on their cards linked to the level of spending at the supermarket and worth up to 1 per cent of the total spent. Tesco responded to the initiative with a rise of 5p to 249p. **J Sainsbury**, which has also announced plans to issue a similar card next month, firmed 2p to 421p. **Argyll** also hardened 2p to 271p.

Forte, the hotel and leisure group, slipped 3p to 242p in spite of an encouraging trading statement. The group reported that turnover in the second half had been steady and that occupancy rates in its London hotels continued to improve.

It was a different story for shareholders in **Eurotunnel**, which saw its shares lose ground in both London and Paris after issuing a warning about current trading. The company said that revenues in 1995 will fall short of the figure projected at the time of the rights issue in May last year. The group blamed the effect of delays and the constraints on the build-up of the operation and subsequent traffic. Revenue figures for 1994 revealed a final figure of £30.6 million.

T&N, the automotive components group, advanced 6p to 164p in the wake of reports claiming the group is about to announce a cut in the dividend and £100 million worth of disposals. The measures are said to be aimed at improving its standing in the City. There is also talk that the company is delaying its proposed purchase of a majority stake in Kolbenschmidt, the German motor components group, partly owned by Commerzbank and Metallgesellschaft. The option on the stake expires at the end of March.

There was further heavy turnover in shares of **Rameo**, the USM-quoted oil services group, which recently turned its hand to exploring in the Caspian Sea. The price climbed 17p to 338p as a line of 520,000 shares went through the market at 340p.

☐ GILT-EDGED: Gilts suffered sharp losses at the medium and longer end of the market after the Bank of England disappointed traders and pitched the next auction on February 22, at the ten-year area. Dealers had been anticipating the short end to absorb the Government's latest fund-raising exercise.

Prices opened lower and drifted throughout the rest of the session, although the latest US producer price numbers were seen as positive by bond markets generally.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt tumbled £¾ to £101¾ as the number of contracts completed reached 73,000.

Among conventional issues the biggest falls were seen at the longer end with Treasury 8 per cent 2013 falling almost £1 to £95 15/32, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 fell £¼ to £97¾.

☐ NEW YORK: Share prices were mixed on Wall Street in response to a weaker bond market. Prices at midday were mixed. The Dow Jones industrial average stood at 3,933.02, higher by 0.34 points.



Sir Rocco Forte saw shares slip after statement

Siebe firmed 2p to 540p after a buy recommendation from Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker. Henderson says that, after a dismal performance in the past 18 months, the shares should start to outperform as the increasingly favourable trading environment for the company percolates through to the City.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
United Biscuits	365p	+32p	Bid hopes revived
Waste Management	332p	-69p	Disappointing trading news
BTP	249	-28p	Rights issue
Northern Electric	980p	+22p	Awaiting bid clearance
Tadpole Technology	250p	+51p	Buy recommendation
Henderson Administration	977p	-98p	Profits warning
Govett	308p	-38p	US law suit filed
GKN	582p	+26p	Buy recommendation
Meggitt	75p	+12p	TT Group buys 4 per cent

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
- Dow Jones 3933.02 (+0.34)
- S&P Composite 480.50 (+0.31)

Tokyo:
- Nikkei Average 18291.35 (+191.80)

Hong Kong:
- Hang Seng 8012.82 (-42.06)

Amsterdam:
- EOE Index 415.64 (+0.97)

Sydney:
- AO 1846.0 (+12.4)

Frankfurt:
- DAX 2130.15 (+17.46)

Singapore:
- Straits 2074.05 (-10.96)

Brussels:
- General 7103.15 (+31.03)

Paris:
- CAC-40 1869.40 (-5.04)

Zurich:
- SKA Gen 633.20 (-0.90)

London:
- FT 30 2364.8 (+6.6)
- FT 100 3109.9 (+10.9)
- FT-SE Mid 250 3454.1 (+13.4)
- FT-SE Eurotrack 100 1348.30 (+1.26)
- FT A All-Share 1530.47 (+5.05)
- FT Non Financials 1657.48 (+4.27)
- FT Gold Mines 203.7 (+0.3)
- FT Fixed Interest 110.45 (-0.02)
- FT Govt Secs 91.23 (-0.54)
- Bargains 23616
- SEAQ Volume 555.6m
- USM (Datastrm) 148.38 (+0.13)
- US$ 1.5607 (+0.0050)
- German Mark 2.3785 (-0.0002)
- Exchange Index 78.8 (+0.1)
- Bank of England official close (4pm)
- £:ECU 1.2553
- £:SDR 1.0596
- RPI 146.0 Dec (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

First Russ Fts ($10)	570	-3
Lazard Birla	54½	+¼
Lazard Birla Wts	32	...
MCIT S Cap (35)	34	...
MCIT S Inc (35)	36	...
Matheson Llyds IT (100)	81	...
Pentex Oil	90	...
Wessex Trust	11	+¼
Woodchester Uts	125	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

BTP n/p (225)	24	...
Cadbury Schws n/p	74	+5
Dares Estates n/p (4)	¼	...
Verity n/p (7½)	¾	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Barclays	612p (+9p)
Bellway	192p (+8p)
Persimmon	178p (+8p)
Hepworth	299p (+8p)
Delta	468p (+8p)
Tadpole Tech	250p (-8p)
Senior Eng	76p (-8p)
T & N	164p (-6p)
Utd Biscuits	365p (+23p)
Com Union	528p (+10p)
Gen Accident	547p (+7p)
Transatlantic	318p (+6p)
Thomson Corp	775p (+10p)
VTR	99p (+5p)
Ramco Energy	338p (+17p)
Flying Flowers	96p (+9p)
Frost Group	226p (+9p)
Boxmore Intl	283p (+9p)
Mountview	1075p (+50p)
Tesco	249p (+5p)
Body Shop	179p (+10p)
Fine Art Dev	345p (+17p)
Biotec Inv	156p (+6p)
Cater Allen	446p (+6p)
Zeneca	898p (+6p)

FALLS:

Inchcape	302p (-5p)
BICC	322p (-6p)
MAM	757p (-7p)
Eurotunnel Uts	298p (-8p)

Closing Prices Page 33

TEMPUS

Black Horse gallop

A 6 PER CENT fall in operating profits of Lloyds Bank, to £1.41 billion, did not look promising. But strip out lower dealing profits, lower interest received relating to problem country debt, and a £60 million provision to cover pension mis-selling, and the underlying performance was actually rather good last year.

The fall in the trading surplus masked an improvement in volumes and margins in what Sir Brian Pitman, chief executive, dubbed "priority target segments".

Most of the underlying growth last year came from mortgage loans, but the signal from Lloyds was that further growth in its other UK businesses is on its way.

The bank is picking up small business customers, and its share of the student market reached 24 per cent, far out of proportion with its overall market share. Sir Brian said that the UK business was beginning to grow again with a pick-up in demand from personal and small business customers, though margins on corporate loans are still under pressure.

An encouraging sign was the increase in the domestic net interest margin of 13 basis points, to 4 per cent, during the year. The Lloyds performance bodes well for the banking sector and recent rises in interest rates will help.

The big problem facing Lloyds is who will succeed Sir Brian. He has extended his tenure twice, and is now expected to leave at the end of next year. To extend his stay a third time would signal a succession crisis. Although Sir Robin Ibbs, the chairman, asserts that Lloyds "takes succession plans extremely seriously", there is no obvious successor. The bank needs to stop dodging the question and spell out its plans.

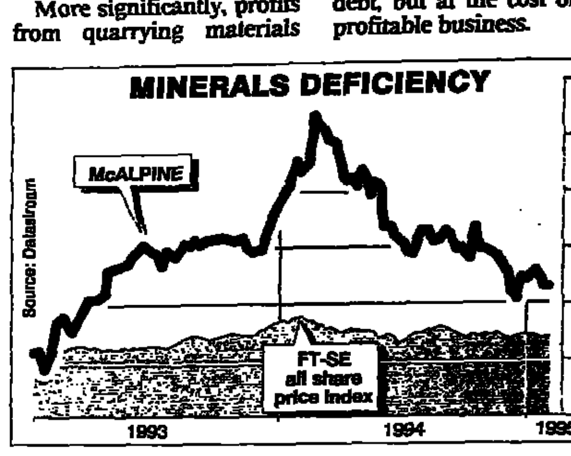
Alfred McAlpine

ALFRED McAlpine served up just what the construction sector did not want to see yesterday: a reminder of just how awful things are in the building trade. The company felt the need, in reporting a £43.5 million deal with George Wimpey, to stress the difficult conditions in contracting and yet another dip in the housing market.

The company is in closed season, so the market will have to wait to learn how bad things are. For now, McAlpine says the improvement in the housing market in the first half of 1994 was not sustained in the second half, while market-watchers suggest few gains this year. Meanwhile, there are no signs of improvement in building and civil engineering from the sort of margins that have driven Costain, a competitor, into bid talks announced a week ago.

Wimpey is buying the bulk of McAlpine's minerals business for a price that equates to 20 or more times historic earnings on paper, falling to 14 times once Wimpey cuts costs by combining it with its own operations.

More significantly, profits from quarrying materials are rising, boosted by a 10 per cent volume improvement in 1994 and a 6 to 8 per cent rise in prices, which explains the mismatch between the £1 million the McAlpine operations made in 1993 and expected operating profits of £3 million last year. McAlpine ends with no debt, but at the cost of one profitable business.



Tesco

TESCO is clearly trying to steal J Sainsbury's thunder by announcing the launch of its Clubcard scheme just days ahead of Sainsbury's own promotion programme celebrating its 125th birthday. But the real question is whether Tesco will steal market share, and at what cost.

Both sides are throwing around numbers for the cost of the scheme. Sainsbury says Tesco needs sales increases of 5 per cent to break even: Tesco claims the figure is much lower. In truth, it is probably about 2 per cent.

While everyone can argue about the numbers, there is no denying the benefits from the customer information the Clubcard will provide. Tesco will know who its customers are, what they buy, how much they spend and how often they visit. That is valuable information in an industry as competitive as this.

The trouble is that should the scheme succeed, the group's competitors will surely follow its lead. Both Sainsbury and Argyll are already trialling similar cards and Sainsbury has a wealth of experience to draw on with Homebase's Save & Spend card scheme. That is likely to spark a card war with the latest entrant trying to beat everyone else's discounts. That cannot be good news for the sector, which was beginning to stabilise after the price wars.

Forte

SIR ROCCO FORTE must feel he is running hard to stand still. Even though Forte has sold its quarter stake in Gardner Merchant for a full price, its gearing for the year to January 31 will show a sharp increase thanks to the strictures of new accounting standards.

The sale and leaseback provisions within FRS5 were always intended to force the hotel industry to come clean. Too many operators were exploiting the system to disguise their liabilities. Forte was never the heaviest user but the sudden £460 million jump in its debts shows how much of its expansion in recent years has been funded by third parties.

The market did not appreciate this or the £10 million cut in profits that has been caused by the equalisation of lease payments, but it was cheered by Forte's upbeat outlook on trading. Occupancy rates in London are now more than 80 per cent, allowing the group to increase room rates almost at will, while even the provincial hotels are beginning to fill up again. That should have pushed the group to a £120 million profit for the year to January 31. That is beginning to look respectable, but is still only a 5 per cent return on net assets. The group has a long way further to go to justify its share price, which values it at 24 times earnings.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	1007-1005	May	1054-1053
May	1007-1006	Jul	1063-1054
Jul	1018-1017	Sep	1074-1072
Sep	1029-1028	Dec	1083-1078
Dec	1036-1035		
Mar	1045-1044		Volume: 4278

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	2860-2850	Nov	2730-2725
May	2795-2790	Jan	2720-2710
Jul	2752-2751	Mar	2720-2700
Sep	2738-2735		Volume: 4060

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	347.7-46.7
Spot: 397.40		Dec	342.9-41.8
Mar	400.0-99.0	Mar	339.5-38.0
May	393.0-92.5	May	338.0-36.5
Aug	375.7-75.0		Volume: 4677

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 9

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	86.09	118.10	122.02
(+/-)	-2.29	-2.45	-0.30
Eng/Wales:	86.13	118.55	121.84
(+/-)	-2.47	-2.01	-0.12
(%)	+4.0	-3.0	+9.0
Scotland:	79.81	115.76	122.82
(+/-)	+6.34	-4.77	-1.04
(%)	-51.0	-18.0	+7.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.90	+0.10
Brent 15 day (Mar)	17.25	+0.15
Brent 15 day (Apr)	16.65	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	18.40	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	18.20	+0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	B:	O:
Premium Gas .15	168 (+2)	170 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	148 (+2)	149 (+2)
Non EEC 1H Mar	149 (n/c)	150 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Apr	149 (n/c)	151 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	103 (-1)	105 (-1)
Naphtha	167 (n/c)	169 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Feb	unq	May	146.75-47.00
Mar	145.75-46.00	Jun	147.00-47.25
Apr	146.75-47.00		Vol: 34308

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	17.20-17.21	Jun	16.47 BID
Apr	16.63-16.65	Jul	16.41-16.45
May	16.51 BID		Vol: 40209

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	109.10	Mar	101.40
May	110.15	May	102.25
Jul	112.00	Sep	97.50
Sep	99.45	Nov	99.75
Nov	100.30	Jan	100.85
Volume: 505		Volume: 25	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	260.0	276.50
May	285.0	296.50
Jun	unq	unq
		Volume: 227

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Mar 121.25-121.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Feb 95	2040	2025	2043
Mar 95	2040	2025	2035
Apr 95	2035	2030	2038
Jul 95	1775	1760	1777
Vol: 124 lots		Open interest: 3774	

Index 1980 +6

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2875.0-2876.0	2859.0-2860.0	1724775
Lead ($/tonne)	576.00-577.00	595.00-595.50	237275
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1023.0-1024.0	1047.5-1048.0	619950
Tin ($/tonne)	5450.0-5455.0	5538.0-5540.0	31020
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1912.0-1913.0	1953.0-1954.0	2231400
Nickel ($/tonne)	8340.0-8345.0	8475.0-8480.0	123462

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Dom.	500	31½	39	50	8	17	22
(*517)	550	8	15	26	35	45½	48½
Argyll	260	20	25½	29½	6	11	13½
(*271)	280	9½	15	19½	14½	21½	24
ASDA	60	6½	9	9½	1	2½	3½
(*65)	70	1½	4	4½	6	7½	8½
Boots	460	38	46½	51½	4½	13	14
(*489)	500	12½	23½	29½	20	32	32½
Br Airways	360	33½	42	47½	5	12½	15½
(*384)	390	15	24½	31½	16	26½	29½
BP	420	18	28½	34½	11½	18	20
(*425½)	460	4	12	17	38	42	43½
Br Steel	140	18	21½	24	1½	3½	5
(*155)	160	5½	10	13	9	12	13½
C & W	390	21½	31	40	11	19	23½
(*397)	420	8	17	26	27½	35	39½
CU	493	37	—	—	8½	—	—
(*527½)	543	8	—	—	36½	—	—
ICI	700	54	66	71	10	18	24
(*747½)	750	19½	37	44½	33	40½	47
Kingfishr	420	26	31½	40	10	21½	26
(*428½)	460	8½	14½	23	34	46½	50
Land Sec	550	42	49	53	3½	14	16½
(*581½)	600	12½	19	25½	22½	40	43
M & S	390	20½	27	34	8	14½	17
(*399)	420	6½	12	19½	24½	30½	33
Nat West	500	21½	33½	40	21½	26	34
(*509½)	550	5	14½	20½	56½	59	65
Sainsbury	420	17	24½	32	11½	20½	23
(*422)	460	3	9½	16	38½	46½	48
Shell	700	35½	47	57½	11½	16½	22½
(*727½)	750	10	22	31½	41½	44	48½
Smkl Bch	460	36	46½	54	7	13	17½
(*489)	500	13½	24½	32½	24	31	36
Storehse	220	19	24	26½	2½	7	7½
(*233½)	240	8	12	16	10½	16	16½
Trafalgar	60	9	11½	13½	1	1½	3
(*67)	70	3½	6	8	5	6	7
Unilever	1150	47	67	89½	26½	38	43
(*1174)	1200	20½	42½	63	55½	66	69½
Zeneca	850	60½	75½	89½	19	23	30
(*897½)	900	30	48	62	42½	46	52½
Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met	360	23	33	38	0	4½	9
(*382)	390	1	14½	20	9	16½	21½
Ladbroke	160	17	20	24	0	3½	6½
(*177)	180	1½	7½	13	4½	11½	15½
Utd Bisc	360	13½	21½	27½	5	18½	23½
(*369)	390	3	11	15½	26	39	42½

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	450	23½	—	—	9	—	—
(*460)	475	11	—	—	22	—	—
Thames W	460	33½	42½	46½	5	17½	21½
(*482)	500	11	21	26	24½	38½	42½
Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	460	6	21½	28	4½	25	33½
(*461)	500	0	7	14½	39	53½	60
BTR	300	21½	25	31½	0	7	10
(*321)	330	1	8½	16	9½	21½	24½
Br Aero	448	30	42½	—	0	14	—
(*476½)	487	3½	21	—	11	32	—
Br Telcm	390	7½	21	28½	1½	9½	18
(*395)	420	0	8	14	25	27½	35
Cadbury	409	10½	27	37	1	9½	13½
(*419)	447	0	9½	18½	28	31	34
Guinness	420	15½	25½	34	1	11½	15
(*435)	460	0	6½	15½	25	36	38
GEC	280	15½	24	29	0	4	9
(*295)	300	1½	11½	17½	6½	11½	18½
Hanson	240	7½	13	17	1	7	11½
(*245½)	260	0½	4½	8½	14½	19½	23
LASMO	140	19½	22½	26½	0	2	3½
(*159½)	160	3	10	14½	3½	9	10½
Lucas	180	13½	19	25	0	5	7½
(*193)	200	1	8½	14½	7½	14½	17
Pilkingtn	140	17	21½	24½	0	2	4
(*157)	160	2	9	12½	4	9	12
Prudentl	300	6½	14	19½	1½	13½	16½
(*304½)	330	0	3½	8½	25½	35½	37
Redland	420	29	37	42½	0	13½	18½
(*449½)	460	1½	13	21½	12½	36	40½
R-Royce	160	5½	12	16½	1	7	10½
(*164½)	180	0	4	8½	15½	20	22½
Tesco	240	9½	17½	20	1	7½	9½
(*249)	260	0	7	10½	11½	19	20½
Vodafone	183	10	—	—	0½	—	—
(*193)	200	1	9	13	8½	13½	17
Williams	330	8½	19½	25	1	12½	16½
(*337½)	360	0	6	11½	22½	32½	35½

FT-SE INDEX (*3111½)

	3000	3050	3100	3150	3200	3250
Calls						
Feb	125	76	34	10½	1½	1
Mar	137½	98	65	39½	21½	11
Apr	153½	118½	88½	63½	41½	27
May	174	141½	112	87	65	48
Jun	187	—	136½	—	79½	—
Puts						
Feb	2½	5	13	40½	88½	138½
Mar	15½	26	43	68	101½	142½
Apr	36	50½	70	95	123½	159
May	48	65½	85½	110½	139	172½
Jun	59	—	98	—	151	—

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Natl	420	24½	30	37	7	14½	20
(*440)	460	5½	12	18½	33½	38	42
Amstrad	125	23	27	—	0½	3	—
(*147½)	150	5	12	—	8	13	—
Barclays	600	26½	41	51½	13½	26	34
(*615½)	650	5	19½	29	47½	55½	62½
Blue Circ	280	15	23½	29	5	14½	19½
(*288½)	300	5½	14½	20	15	26	30½
Br Gas	300	15	22	27	3½	11½	15
(*310½)	330	2	8	13½	20½	29½	32
Dixons	200	17½	24	28½	2½	4½	9
(*214)	220	6	12½	18	10½	13	20
Forte	240	9	16	21	5½	13	16
(*242)	260	2	8	12½	18½	25½	28
Hillsdwn	160	18	20½	22½	0½	4	7
(*176½)	180	4	8	11	6½	14½	17
Lonrho	140	14½	20½	22½	1	3½	6
(*153)	160	3	9½	12	9	12½	15
Sears	100	6½	9½	10½	1½	4½	5½
(*104)	110	2	4½	6	7	10	11
Thrn EMI	1000	59½	88	98½	4½	16	31½
(*1048½)	1050	24½	56	66½	20½	34½	53
Tomkins	220	18½	26	29	1	5½	9½
(*235½)	240	5	14	17½	8½	13½	19
TSB	240	13½	23½	27	6½	12½	16½
(*251)	260	4½	14½	18	18½	23½	27½
Wellcome	1000	48½	58	64½	26	38	43½
(*1024½)	1050	23	34	41½	54	65	69½
Series		Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo	650	30½	51½	60	24	33	45
(*662½)	700	11½	29½	38	55½	62½	74
HSBC	650	42	55½	68	22½	37	46
(*676)	700	16½	32	46	52½	65½	73½
Reuter	420	39½	51½	59	7	12	15
(*453½)	460	15½	28½	36½	24	29	32
Series		Feb	May	Jul	Feb	May	Jul
Royal Ins	280	9½	18	24½	1	13	16
(*288½)	300	0½	9½	15½	12	24½	27
Series		Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	110	10½	16	20½	3	8	10
(*116)	120	5½	11½	16	8	13	15
Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Eastern Gp	700	15½	47	60½	7½	28½	42½
(*706½)	750	3	25	37½	44	57	71½
Series		Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	460	24½	37	44½	5	14	22½
(*477½)	500	5	16½	25½	26	36	44
Scot Pwr	330	14	26½	31½	6	13	19½
(*336)	360	2½	13	17½	25	30½	36½

February 10, 1995 Tot: 39635 Call: 24014 Put: 15621 FT-SE Call: 8667 Put: 5218

*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 (Previous open interest: 66337)	Mar 95	3109.0	3129.0	3104.0	3123.0	14936
	Jun 95	3116.5	3131.5	3116.5	3132.5	2179
FT-SE 250 (Previous open interest: 4010)	Mar 95	3460.0	3460.0	3460.0	3462.5	70
	Jun 95					0
Three Month Sterling (Previous open interest: 446183)	Mar 95	92.98	92.99	92.96	92.97	8219
	Jun 95	92.33	92.33	92.26	92.27	28243
	Sep 95	91.90	91.90	91.79	91.81	11934
Three Mth Eurodollar (Previous open interest: 2437)	Mar 95				93.54	0
	Jun 95	92.98	92.98	92.97	92.92	100
Three Mth Euro DM (Previous open interest: 775108)	Mar 95	94.84	94.85	94.83	94.84	14855
	Jun 95	94.50	94.54	94.47	94.48	28578
Long Gilt (Previous open interest: 99667)	Mar 95	102-15	102-16	101-21	101-24	73773
	Jun 95	101-30	101-30	101-28	101-30	110
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 95	108.59	108.59	108.51	108.55	1828
	Jun 95	107.87	107.87	107.81	107.84	465
German Gov Bd Bund (Previous open interest: 226816)	Mar 95	90.85	91.10	90.56	90.62	148174
	Jun 95	90.33	90.37	90.00	90.00	2825
Three month ECU (Previous open interest: 24012)	Mar 95	93.85	93.85	93.77	93.79	1269
	Jun 95	93.34	93.34	93.28	93.29	905
Euro Swiss Franc (Previous open interest: 44424)	Mar 95	95.89	95.93	95.89	95.91	2095
	Jun 95	95.59	95.62	95.56	95.59	1827
Italian Govmt Bond (Previous open interest: 56343)	Mar 95	100.58	100.85	100.43	100.54	29512
	Jun 95	99.70	99.75	99.46	99.55	600

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6½ Low 4 Week fixed: 6¼

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅜; 3 mth 6⅜. Sell: 2 mth 6¼; 3 mth: 6¼.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis)	6½-6⅜	6⅝-6½	6¾-6½	6⅞-6¾	
Sterling Money Rates	6⅝-6½	6⅝-6⅝	6⅞-6¾	7¼-7	7⅞-7⅝
Interbank	6⅝-6½	6⅝-6⅝	6⅞-6¾	7¼-7	7⅞-7⅝

Overnight: open 6¾, close 4.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps	6¼	n/a	6¾	7	7¾
Sterling CDs	6⅝-6½	6⅝-6⅝	6⅞-6¾	7⅛-6⅞	7⅞-7⅝
Dollar CDs	6.01-5.98	n/a	6.20-6.17	6.48-6.45	7.11-7.08
Building Society CDs	6⅝-6½	6⅝-6¾	6¾-6⅝	7⅛-7	7¾-7½

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £2,160m allotted: £500m: Bids: £98.475% received: unq%; Last week: £98.465% received: 100%: Avge rate: £6.1168% last wk £6.1694%: Next week: £700m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6-5¾	6⅛-5⅞	6¼-6	6⅝-6½	5¼-4¾
Deutschemark:	5-4¾	5-4⅞	5⅛-4⅞	5¼-5⅛	5¼-4¾
French Franc:	5⅛-5⅛	5½-5¼	5⅞-5⅝	6-5¾	6-5
Swiss Franc:	3¾-3½	3⅞-3⅝	3⅞-3⅝	4⅛-4	4¼-3¾
Yen:	2¼-2	2¼-2⅛	2⅜-2⅛	2½-2⅜	2½-1½

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $376.50-376.90 Close: $376.30-376.80 High: $376.50-376.90 Low: $375.30-375.80 AM: $376.40 PM: $376.40

Krugerrand: $376.50-378.50 (£242.00-244.00)

Platinum: $414.00 (£266.00) Silver: $4.77 (£3.045) Palladium: $156.85 (£100.75)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Feb 10	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6612-2.6689	2.6612-2.6646	¾-½pr	1¾-1¼pr
Brussels	48.87-49.05	48.87-48.97	9-3pr	20-14pr
Copenhagen	9.3550-9.3810	9.3550-9.3690	¾-¼pr	2¼-1¾pr
Dublin	1.0035-1.0069	1.0039-1.0066	9-6pr	18-14pr
Frankfurt	2.3761-2.3816	2.3761-2.3793	¾-½pr	1¼-¾pr
Lisbon	244.74-245.77	244.74-245.38	27-61ds	148-215ds
Madrid	204.44-205.32	204.44-204.74	22-33ds	91-110ds
Milan	2513.20-2521.10	2513.20-2516.50	2-4ds	11-14ds
Montreal	2.1789-2.1922	2.1878-2.1908	0.16-0.25ds	0.42-0.55ds
New York	1.5558-1.5624	1.5614-1.5624	0.08-0.06pr	0.19-0.17pr
Oslo	10.3940-10.4250	10.3940-10.4100	1¾-1¼pr	4-2¾pr
Paris	8.2210-8.2400	8.2210-8.2350	1¼-¾pr	2¾-2pr
Stockholm	11.5510-11.6390	11.5510-11.5730	¼-1¼ds	3-4½ds
Tokyo	153.92-154.48	154.18-154.45	¾-½pr	1¾-1½pr
Vienna	16.72-16.77	16.72-16.75	2¼-1¼pr	7¼-6pr
Zurich	2.0060-2.0136	2.0060-2.0090	1¼-¾pr	1¾-1½pr

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3406-1.3415
Austria	10.71-10.72
Belgium (Com)	31.36-31.37
Canada	1.4030-1.4035
Denmark	6.0010-6.0040
France	5.2750-5.2770
Germany	1.5240-1.5245
Hong Kong	7.7317-7.7327
Ireland	1.5506-1.5521
Italy	1614.25-1615.25
Japan	98.89-98.94
Malaysia	2.5480-2.5490
Netherlands	1.7083-1.7088
Norway	6.6710-6.6730
Portugal	157.12-157.22
Singapore	1.4520-1.4530
Spain	131.33-131.38
Sweden	7.4256-7.4331
Switzerland	1.2865-1.2875

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5588-1.5614
Australia dollar	2.0922-2.0942
Bahrain dinar	0.5795-0.5915
Brazil real*	1.3015-1.3056
Cyprus pound	0.7275-0.7375
Finland markka	7.265-7.381
Greece drachma	368.00-375.00
Hong Kong dollar	12.0661-12.0707
India rupee	48.26-49.22
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4595-0.4695
Malaysia ringgit	3.9759-3.9787
Mexico peso	n/a
New Zealand dollar	2.4585-2.4620
Pakistan rupee	47.40 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.765-5.891
Singapore dollar	2.2657-2.2681
S Africa rand (fin)	6.1720-6.2073
S Africa rand (com)	5.5309-5.5368
U A E dirham	5.645-5.769

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	178	Legal & Gn	2,100
ASDA Gp	19,000	Lloyds Bk	7,700
Abbey Natl	1,400	MEPC	410
Alld Dom	1,700	Marks Spr	3,800
Argyll Gp	9,600	NatWst Bk	10,000
Arjo Wiggn	925	Nat Power	3,200
AB Foods	275	Nth Wst W	847
BAA	1,400	P & O	1,500
BAT Inds	5,600	Pearson	1,700
BOC	591	PowerGen	1,400
BP	6,100	Prudential	1,400
BTR	6,800	RMC	530
BT	10,000	RTZ	899
Bk of Scot	3,500	Rank Org	1,500
Barclays	8,000	Recklt Col	873
Bass	2,200	Redland	639
Blue Circle	2,800	Reed Intl	807
Boots	2,600	Rentokil	1,900
Bowater	1,100	Reuters	6,500
Brit Aero	2,000	Rolls Royce	2,500
Brit Airwys	760	Ryl Ins	3,300
Brit Gas	6,000	Ryl Bk Scot	2,200
Brit Steel	2,800	Sainsbury	2,500
Burmah Cstl	788	Schroders	13
Cable Wire	4,600	Scot & New	554
Cadbury	3,100	Scot Power	3,000
Caradon	2,000	Sears	1,200
Carlton Cms	1,500	Svrn Trent	1,600
Cm Union	2,100	Shell Trans	2,600
Courtaulds	375	Siebe	1,300
De La Rue	816	SmKl Bch	6,400
Eastern Elec	586	Smith Nph	3,800
Enterpr Oil	1,900	Sthern Elec	563
Forte	3,900	Std Chartd	2,800
GKN	1,200	Sun Allnce	2,100
GRE	4,100	TI Gp	694
GUS	1,400	TSB	5,800
Gen Acc	1,900	Tesco	11,000
Gen Elec	2,300	Thames W	1,800
Glaxo	3,100	Thrn EMI	1,200
Granada	2,700	Tomkins	3,900
Grand Met	2,700	Unilever	1,700
Guinness	3,400	Utd Bisc	4,900
HSBC	2,100	Vodafone	6,800
Hanson	11,000	Warburg	2,500
ICI	2,000	Wellcome	724
Inchcape	4,500	Whitbread	3,400
Kingfisher	1,200	Wllms Hld	1,300
Ladbroke	7,300	Wolseley	886
Land Secs	2,000	Zeneca	1,200

WALL STREET

	Feb 10 midday	Feb 9 close
AMP Inc	73¾	72¾
AMR Corp	59¾	57¾
AT & T	52¼	51¼
Abbott Labs	35	35
Advanced Micro	31½	31¾
Aetna Life	53	53
Ahmanson (HF)	18	18
Air Prod & Chem	47	46¾
Alberson's	30½	30½
Alcan Alumnm	24¼	25
Alco Standard	65	65
Allied Signal	37	36¾
Alum Co of Am	79¾	79¼
Amax Gold Inc	4¾	4¾
Amerada Hess	47¾	47¾
Amer Brands	38	37¾
Amer El Power	33¾	34¾
Amer Express	31½	32
Amer Genl Corp	30¾	30¾
Amer Home Pr	69¾	69¾
Amer Intl	103¾	104¼
Amer Stores	24¾	24¾
Ameritech	43	43
Amoco	58¾	57¾
Anheuser-Busch	54¾	54¼
Apple Computer	43¾	43¾
Archer Daniels	20	20¼
Armco	6½	6½
Armstrng Wrld	47¾	47¾
Asarco	27¾	27
Ashland Oil	32¾	32¼
Atl Richfield	106	107
Auto Data Pro	61½	61½
Avery Dennison	38¾	38¾
Avon Products	58	58¾
Baker Hughes	17¾	17¾
Baltim Gas & El	24½	24½
Banc One	28¾	29
BankAmerica	46½	46½
Bank of NY	32	31½
Bankers Tr NY	62¾	62¾
Barnett Banks	43½	43¾
Bausch & Lomb	34	34½
Baxter Intl	29	28¾
Becton Dickinsn	51½	51¾
Bell Atlantic	53¾	53¾
BellSouth	59¾	59
Black & Decker	25¾	25
Block (H&R)	35¾	35¾
Boeing	47	47¾
Boise Cascade	27¾	27¾
Borden Inc	13	13
Bristol Myrs Sq	61	60¾
Browning Ferris	32¾	31½
Brunswick	19	18¾
Burlington Nthn	52½	52¾
CBS	63¾	62¾
CNA Financial	70¾	70¾
CPC Intl	54¾	55¾
CSX	71½	70¾
Campbell Soup	44¼	44¾
Can Pacific	14½	14¼
Cpd Cities ABC	86½	87
Carolina Pwr	27¼	28
Caterpillar	52¾	52¾
Central & SW	24½	24
Champion Intl	41	41½
Chase Manhat	34	34½
Chemical Bk	39¾	39¾
Chevron Corp	46¾	46¾
Chrysler	46¾	45¾
Chubb Corp	79¾	79¾
Cigna Corp	70	70
Citicorp	42¾	42¾
Clorox	58¾	58¾
Coastal Corp	28¾	28¾
Coca Cola	52¼	52¾
Colgate-Palmolive	61½	63
Columbia Gas	25¾	25¾
Compaq Comp	37½	37¾
Comp Ass Intl	54½	53¼
Conagra	32¾	32¼
Conrail	52¾	53
Cons Edison	27¾	27¼
Cons Nat Gas	36¼	35¾
Cooper Inds	39¾	39½
Corning Inc	31½	31¼
Crown Cork	40¾	41½
Dana Corp	23¾	22¾
Dayton Hudson	73¼	74¾
Deere	75¾	73¾
Delta Air Lines	54½	52¾
Deluxe Corp	26¾	26½
Detroit Edison	28¾	28¾
Digital Equip	36	36
Dillard Dept St	27¾	27¾
Disney (Walt)	52¾	52¾
Dominion Res	38	38
Donelley (RR)	32	32
Dover Corp	58¾	59¾
Dow Chemical	64½	64¾
Dow Jones	34	34¾
Dresser	20¾	20¾
Duke Power	39¾	39¾
Dun & Bradstreet	51	51¼
Du Pont	54½	54¾
Eastman Kodak	50¾	50¾
Eaton Corp	46½	46
Emerson Elec	65¾	65¾
Engelhard Corp	26¾	26½

	Feb 10 midday	Feb 9 close
Enron Corp	31½	31½
Entergy	22¾	22¾
Ethyl Corp	10¾	10¾
Exxon	61½	61½
FMC Corp	58¾	57¾
FPL Group	36¾	36
Federal Express	61½	60¾
Fed Nat Mtge	76¾	77¼
First Chicago	49¾	49¾
First Interstate	79¾	79¾
First Union Rlty	7¾	8
Fleet Finl Grp	32¾	32¾
Fluor Corp	47¾	48
Ford Motor	25¾	25¾
GTE Corp	33½	33½
Gannett	51½	51½
Gap Inc Del	33¾	33¾
Gen Dynamics	44¾	44¼
Gen Electric	52¾	52¾
Gen Mills	58¾	59
Gen Motors	39¾	39
Gen Reinsurance	129	131½
Gen Signal	34¼	34½
Genuine Parts	38¾	38¾
Georgia Pac	74½	73½
Gillette	77¼	78¼
Glaxo ADR	20¾	20¾
Goodrich (BF)	44½	44
Goodyear Tire	36¾	36½
Grace (W&R)	43	42¾
Grt Atl Pac Tea	19¾	19¾
Great Wstn Fin	18¾	18½
Halliburton	34¾	35
Harcourt General	34½	34½
Heinz (HJ)	39¾	39¾
Hercules	43¾	44
Hershey Foods	50¾	50¾
Hewlett Packard	105¾	106¾
Hilton Hotels	67¾	67¾
Home Depot	49	49¼
Homestake Mng	15¾	15¾
Honeywell	36	35¾
Household Intl	40¼	40¾
Houston Inds	39¾	39¾
Humana	24¾	24¾
ITT Corp	94¾	96¾
Illinois Tool	43¾	43¾
Illinova	23	23¾
INCO	26¾	26¼
Ingersoll Rand	31½	31½
Inland Steel	30	30
Intel Corp	77[illegible]	77½
IBM	75¾	74¾
Intl Flav & Fr	48¾	48¾
Intl Paper	75	74¾
James River Va	23¾	23¾
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	57	56¾
Kellogg	55½	54¾
Kerr-McGee	48¾	47¾
Kimberly-Clark	50¾	49¾
Kmart	14½	14¾
Knight-Ridder	50¾	51½
Lilly (Eli)	65	65¾
Limited Inc	16¾	16¾
LIN Brdcsting	138¾	138¾
Lincoln Nat	39¾	39¾
Litton	36½	36¾
Liz Claiborne	16¼	16½
Lockheed	75¾	74
Louisiana Pac	28¾	28¾
MCI Comm	20¾	20¾
Marriott Int	30¾	30¾
Marsh & McLnn	81½	81½
Masco Corp	24¾	24¾
May Dept St	36¾	36¾
Maytag Corp	16¼	16¼
McDonalds	33¾	32¾
McDonnell D	54	53¾
McGraw Hill	68¾	67¾
Mead Corp	53¾	53
Medtronic	56¾	57¼
Mellon Bk	36¾	36½
Melville Corp	32¾	32¾
Merck Inc	40¼	40¾
Merrill Lynch	39¾	40
Minnesota Mine	52¾	52¾
Mobil Corp	86¾	86¼
Monsanto	74¼	74½
Morgan (JP)	62¾	63½
Motorola Inc	62¾	61½
Natl Medical	15¾	15¾
Natl Semi	18¾	18¾
Natl Service Ind	25¾	25¾
Navistar Int	16	15¾
NBD Bancorp	31½	31½
NY Times A	20¾	21½
Newmont Mng	34½	34¾
Niag Mohawk	14¾	14¼
Nike B	69¾	69¾
NL Industries	11½	11½
Noram Energy	5¾	5¾
Nordstrom	42[illegible]	42¾
Norfolk Sthrn	62	61½
Nthn State Pwr	45¾	45¾
Norwest Corp	24½	24½
Nynex Corp	38½	38¾
Occidental Pet	19	19
Ohio Edison	20¾	20¾
Oracle Systems	44½	43½
Oryx Energy Co	11½	11½

	Feb 10 midday	Feb 9 close
Owens Corning	33¾	33½
PPG Industries	37½	37½
PNC Bank	24	24¾
Paccar Inc	42½	42¾
Pacificorp	18¾	18¾
Pac Enterprises	24	24
Pac Gas & Elect	25¾	25¾
Pac Telesis	31	30¾
Pall Corp	19	19¾
Panhandle East	22¼	22
Parker Hannifin	47¾	47¾
Peco Energy	26½	26¾
Penney (JC)	42¾	43
Pennzoil	45¾	45¾
Pepsico	36¾	36¾
Pfizer	81½	81½
Phelps Dodge	54½	53¾
Philip Morris	61½	60¾
Phillips Pet	32¾	32¾
Pitney Bowes	34¾	33¾
Polaroid	29¾	30
PriceCostco	13¾	13¾
Procter & Gmbl	64¾	65¾
Providian	35	35¾
Pub Serv E & G	28¾	28¾
Quaker Oats	34¾	34
Ralston Purina	46½	46¾
Raychem Corp	38¾	38¾
Raytheon	68¾	68¾
Reebok Intl	34¾	34¾
Reynolds Metals	51½	52¾
Roadway Srvcs	49¾	49¾
Rockwell Intl	38	37¾
Rohm & Haas	55	55¾
Royal Dutch	113¾	112¾
Rubbermaid	31½	31¾
Safeco Corp	54[illegible]	54¾
St Paul's Cos	47¾	47¾
Salomon Inc	37¾	37¾
Santa Fe Pac	19¾	19¾
Sara Lee Corp	26¼	26¾
Scecorp	16½	16¼
Schering Plough	78¾	78¾
Schlumberger	54½	54¾
Scott Paper	75¾	76¾
Seagram	30¾	30¾
Sears Roebuck	47¾	48¾
Shell Trans	67¾	67¼
Sherwin Wlms	33¾	33¾
Skyline Corp	17¾	17¾
Snap-On-Tools	33¾	33¾
Southern Co	20¾	21
Sthwestern Bell	43	43
Sprint Corp	30¾	30¾
Stanley Works	40¾	40¾
Sun Company	28¾	28¾
Sun Microsys	32¾	32¾
Suntrust	53¾	53¾
Supervalu	23½	23¾
Sysco Corp	27¾	27¾
TRW Inc	64½	64¾
TCC Inds	2¾	2½
Tandem Comp	17¾	17¾
Tandy Corp	46¼	46¾
Teledyne	23¾	22¾
Temple Inland	47¾	47¾
Tenneco	43¾	43¾
Texaco	61¾	61¾
Texas Inst	78¾	78¾
Texas Utilities	32¾	32¾
Textron	52¾	52¾
Time Warner	38¾	38¾
Times-Mirror A	18¾	19
Timken	33¾	34
Torchmark	41¾	41½
Toys R Us	30¾	30¾
Transamerica	52¾	52¾
Travelers	38¾	39¾
Tribune	54¾	54¾
Tyco Labs	48¾	48¾
UST Inc	30¾	30¾
UAL	93¾	92
USX Marathon	15¾	15¾
Unicom	25¾	25¾
Unilever NV	117¾	116¾
Union Camp	49¾	49¾
Union Carbide	28¾	28¾
Union Pacific	50¾	50¾
Unisys Corp	9¾	10
USAIR Group	5¾	5¾
USF&G Corp	14¾	15
US Life	38	38
US West	39¾	39¾
United Tech	64½	64½
Unocal Corp	26¾	26¾
Upjohn	33¾	34
VF Corp	49¾	49¾
WMX Tech	26¾	26¾
Wal-Mart Stores	23¾	23¾
Warner-Lambert	80	81½
Wells Fargo	152¾	154¾
Westinghouse El	14¾	14¾
Weyerhaeuser	39¾	39¾
Whirlpool	53¾	53¾
Whitman	17¼	16¾
Winn Dixie	53¾	53¾
Woolworth	15¾	16
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	45¾	45¾
Xerox	108¾	107¾
Yellow Corp	21½	21½



SHARE WATCH 28
The drug sector comes under the microscope

WEEKEND MONEY

NEW HORIZONS 32
Investors beat a cautious path to South Africa



The fate of retirement funds when marriages fail is taxing judges and Parliament, **Jill Insley** reports

Divorce sparks a battle for pension



ADRIAN BROOKS

Anne Brooks says she has earned a share of the pension for running the home and being a general dogsbody in her working life

The House of Lords is to rule on an important case that will help to clarify the complicated issue of pension rights for divorced couples.

Douglas and Anne Brooks, who are getting divorced after 12 years of married life in Berkshire, are locked in legal combat over who should benefit from Mr Brooks's pension. Mr Brooks is taking the dispute to the House of Lords after the lower courts found against him.

The Court of Appeal last year supported the initial court ruling that Mrs Brooks was entitled to a share in her husband's pension — a fund believed to be worth more than £500,000.

> "We had posh cars, holidays, an expensive lifestyle"

The case has been hailed as a landmark in the treatment of spouses' pensions in England and Wales. Although Scottish courts divide up pension values in the same way as other assets belonging to divorcing couples, English courts have traditionally taken a more tentative approach.

They have taken the view that they lacked power to touch a pension accumulated in the name of one partner, typically the husband.

More often than not, this has meant that a wife ends up with the family home, but no pension, while her ex-husband receives all the retirement benefits but has no roof over his head.

This crude approach has failed to recognise the importance of pension savings — most people's biggest asset after their home.

The Brookses split six years ago, after Mr Brooks started a relationship with a holiday camp entertainer.

Mrs Brooks's lawyer, Martin Ison, an associate with Paisner, the London firm of solicitors, says that Mr Brooks has made it very clear that he does not want to give up any of his pension rights. "Mr Brooks's position, as stated, is that he was only going to give Mrs Brooks a certain amount. She either accepted or rejected it — without full disclosure of his assets," Mr Ison said. "He also made it clear during the trial that he would not have the pension policies interfered with in any way."

Mr Brooks will appeal on April 5 to the Lords. If he loses, the divorce courts could face a flood of claims from spouses wanting a share of their partner's retirement income.

Mr Ison says: "Most pension problems are created by the existence of the pension in favour of the husband where the wife is at home. It is that which created such an enormous interest."

A recent Prudential advertisement points out that the only step most women took to fund their retirement was to marry, as they then supposed, for life.

However, Richard Malone, of Noble Lowndes and vice-president of the Pensions Management Institute, says: "In the UK, there are 400,000 marriages and 150,000 divorces each year. Over the course of a decade, the size of this problem is mounting. It is a big problem for the country."

The Pensions Management Institute would like the Government to amend the Pensions Bill, currently before Parliament, to allow courts to share out occupational and personal pension rights between divorcing parties.

In 1992, the Pensions Management Institute and the Law Society appointed a working group funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation to investigate the treatment of pension rights in divorce cases. The group concluded that pension rights should be valued by using the same statutory cash equivalent as that used for calculating transfer payments, and that courts' powers to share out pension rights should extend to both the working population and pensioners.

Although the Goode Committee, whose report formed the foundation of the Pensions Bill, proposed that these recommendations be added to the new legislation, the Government omitted to include a section on pensions and divorce.

Mr Malone says: "There have been situations where pension schemes have been accused of being out of touch with social changes — for example on job changes. Here's a situation where we were trying to take the initiative and the Government is hesitating."

However, Fairshares, a campaign group set up to lobby for legislation allowing the courts to include pensions in the assets to be divided between divorcees, hopes that amendments will be made to the Pensions Bill in the House of Lords at committee stage this month.

Harry Cohen, Labour MP for Leyton and a supporter of Fairshares, says: "If it doesn't happen in the House of Lords, I'll be waiting for them in the Commons."

Meanwhile, Mrs Brooks, who is 56 and lives in Sunningdale, Berkshire, must wait until the House of Lords makes its decision to finalise her divorce.

She says: "I earned the pension for running the home and being a general dogsbody throughout my married life. We had posh cars, exotic holidays, an expensive lifestyle ... Now, I only have my old age pension."

Mr Brooks was unavailable for comment.

■ Fiona Price & Partners publish *The Divorced Women's Survival Kit*, a guide to preparing for divorce, achieving settlement and planning post-divorce. The guide can be ordered by sending a cheque for £2.95 to Fiona Price & Partners, 33 Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5AA.

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

Cuts aimed at broken families

The Government looks set to meet fierce opposition if it forces through proposals to abolish income-support payments to divorced or separated people who took out business loans or other loans secured on their homes while they were married. Many of these people set up businesses in the late 1980s, only to see them collapse in the recession.

The proposals, contained in an internal social security memorandum, are likely to be included in a consultative document to be issued next week by the Social Security Advisory Committee, which advises the Social Security Department. Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, has already announced big cuts to income support for mortgage borrowers from October, but many of the details have still not been announced.

Housing advisers and lenders say that any move to withdraw income support for these loan payments would leave more divorced people, particularly women, facing repossession. The Council of Mortgage Lenders has repeatedly said that plans to cut income support will increase the numbers of repossessions.

Many couples took out loans secured on their homes when house prices were rising and people had more equity in their property. Secured loans were taken out to fund businesses, to buy cars and, increasingly, to pay off other debts. But if they subsequently divorced or separated, the wife was often left with a large debt and the threat of repossession if she could not pay.

Under the present system, if you are divorced or separated and your former partner cannot, or will not, make repayments on a secured loan, you can claim income support to cover payments if you have little enough income or savings to qualify for state help. If payments are not made, lenders can repossess, even if the loan is not in your name. Separated couples are exempt from rules restricting most people from claiming income support for secured loans that are not used to buy the house or pay for what the social security department considers necessary repairs and improvements.

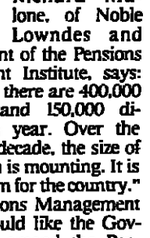
Mr Lilley has made it clear that borrowers will be expected to take out their own insurance to cover mortgage payments if they lose their jobs or cannot work through illness or disability.

But the Association of British Insurers said: "Cover against the financial consequences of divorce has in the past been included in a very few creditor insurance schemes, but is not presently available in mortgage-payment protection policies."

SARA MCCONNELL

Power to the people

INVESTMENT STRATEGY



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Come Valentine's Day, some 2½ million people will have registered for the sale of the Government's remaining shares in National Power and PowerGen. The companies, at least, must hope that nothing like that number actually buy shares and keep them. Huge share registers are costly for all but the biggest companies to run and make communications with shareholders inflexible. In reality, the promoters assume most of the new investors will be transitory, keeping their shares only until they have had the benefit of paying by instalments. But the power sale and the possible later privatisations of Railtrack and the Post Office, will surely give another final push to the bandwagon of wider share ownership.

At the same time, however, the expense and inconvenience of trading small numbers of shares is threatening to disenfranchise the new generation of investors that the City and the Government encouraged to venture beyond utility stocks. They are likely either to lose their direct connection with the companies they invest in, or to be charged for the privilege. Market forces are pushing all but wealthy investors insistently into collective investments.

As letters from readers of *The Times* testify, ever more traditional investors are being cajoled into holding their shares via nominees. Investors in personal equity plans, whose tax concessions are the main spur to investment in shares after privatisation, have no choice. Under the planned new settlement systems for share dealings, which have already led to the leisurely old Stock Exchange trading account being abolished, nominees will become the norm for investors who trade their shares, if not for those who just sit on shares in a few privatised utilities.

There is nothing sinister about this. If the nominee system is more efficient, it should take over. There are, however, two problems. Unless the nominee holding is arranged by the company you are investing in, you are usually charged for the privilege and lose the non-financial rights of being a shareholder.

Last month, ProShare, the body set up to represent individual investors, published a simple draft code that would restore those rights. Its research found that most investors follow their shares regularly, and want the usual shareholder rights and information, even if they do not understand a lot of it. This evidently surprised many in the business establishment. But it should not. Frankly, investors who do not even want to receive a company's annual report should be in trusts. Under the ProShare code, investors would simply ask the nominee to tell the company that they wanted the rights of direct ownership. The company would then be obliged to send annual reports, interim statements, any other documents on rights issues, scrip issues or takeover bids, and allow the investor any perks attached to the shares. Investors could tell their nominees what action to take and could vote by proxy at company meetings. Only attending and speaking at meetings appeared to present much difficulty.

That proviso is important. It is pointless to argue that, say, boardroom pay is a matter for shareholders, if most of them cannot even ask about it. Otherwise the code looks fine. But it will be no use unless it is put into practice. If it is voluntary, as ProShare assumes, this may not happen. ProShare found that a big minority of quoted companies were not keen on implementing the code. Worse, many nominees were lukewarm about providing the facilities it calls for. The Stock Exchange might be able to lean on recalcitrant companies, but the practices of nominees are not systematically regulated and they can scupper the code by not publicising the facilities or by charging heavily for them.

The Government and City regulators must make a decision. Either they enforce the ProShare code or they must accept that market forces will gradually write private shareholders out of their supposed role in company affairs.

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Robert Miller looks into funds that aim to mimic the performance of the main stock market indices

On a new track to investment


ALLSPORT

The concept of index tracking gives a better than sporting chance of matching the return of your chosen index

Few investment themes are capable of generating such heated debate as index tracking. Those in favour of linking the fortunes of their funds to the main stock market indices, whether in the UK, Europe, Japan, or the US, say that since these are probably the most widely-used benchmarks for measuring performance, it is natural to stick as closely as possible to a particular index.

Those against index tracking as a means of managing money, and that means the vast majority of "active" managers, argue that it is just "the lazy man's way of looking after other peoples' money".

Index tracking for retail unit trusts, as opposed to life and pension funds, is relatively new. According to Micropal, there is no track record of longer than three years for the 20 unit trusts in existence over that period. But today the ranks have swelled to 31.

The largest European index-tracking house is BZW Investment Management, which looks after £20 billion of index-tracking assets. Nancy Dickey, a BZW director, estimates that more than £100 billion is now invested in index-tracking funds.

The concept of index tracking is simple. Rather than trying to second guess which particular companies, or sectors, are going to be the star performers in any given month, or year, you bet on the lot. That at least gives a better than sporting chance of matching the return of your chosen index. So, for example, if you believe that the outlook for the UK market is good, then you link your fortunes to the FT-SE Actuaries All-Share index. This covers more than 900 companies.

But very few unit trusts have sufficient funds to match the exact weighting in 900-plus companies. So each fund management house in the index-tracking business, including Morgan Grenfell, Legal & General, Gartmore and Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (formerly James Capel's index funds) has devised its own tracking technique.

Ms Dickey explains: "Index tracking is computer driven and very much a concept. We create a sampling technique where we pick the top 300 or 400 companies and replicate them exactly in proportion to their index weighting. Then we pick the sectors and smaller companies in proportion to their position in the index. What the computer program is looking for in selecting these stocks is that they most nearly reflect the characteristics of the index as a whole."

Ms Dickey says that according to WM, the statistics company, the average return from pension funds investing in UK equities has been 0.4 per cent below the return of the All-Share index in every year over the past decade. But no fund using indexing techniques can hope to match the index precisely. Funds incur costs even if trading is minimal, whereas an index does not. The industry's standard deviation is 0.5 per cent either side of the line.

Ms Dickey also points out that once the index portfolio has been decided there is far less trading than in an active fund. She says: "The average level of turnover in an index fund is 10 to 15 per cent, compared with an active fund where it is between 60 to 120 per cent, with the average being 85 per cent."

Barry Holman, director of index funds at Legal & General, which has nearly £500 million invested in its five index trackers, says: "You have to add back the management charges. But over a ten-year period, I think you will find that trackers certainly come out well above the average." L&G's European, US, and Japanese trackers aim to match the FTA World Index Series for each country.

Mr Holman adds: "The reason for investing in a tracker is that you are taking a view on a market or asset allocation rather than an individual stock or sector."

A tracker is a core holding and one that should be held for some time to stand the best chance of a reasonable return. If your tracker fund consistently underperforms a particular index, then the computer program is at fault, not the concept.

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In South America, the devaluation of the Mexican Peso has triggered a "house of cards" effect right across many of the region's developing economies.

Both Brazil and Argentina, once seen as the great hopes of Latin American investment, have suffered setbacks as economic confidence has been shaken. But, looking further ahead, the solid groundwork in conquering inflation is unlikely to be wasted, with the longer term outlook still strong.

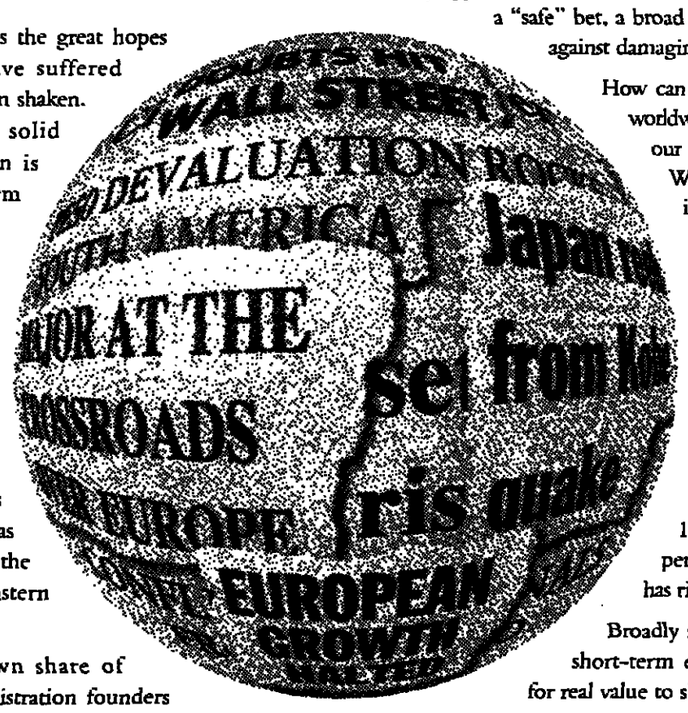
In uncertainty...

China sits waiting for a new leader to emerge. And nowhere can be sure to avoid the impact of the new regime. In Europe, political confusion is the order of the day. Both Great Britain and Italy see their current political order either threatened or in tatters as a result of crises of confidence or scandals. But Europe has its share of world class companies, and the prospect of vigorous competition as Eastern Europe re-builds.

North America, too, has had its own share of investment inertia as the Clinton administration founders on a reef of unpopularity and allegations, but US companies are renowned for their ability to react positively to competition and opportunity.

There is opportunity.

And in the Far East, political uncertainty in North Korea continues to cast a shadow over parts of the region. Nonetheless, the emerging economies on the Pacific Rim still contain some of the most exciting and ambitious companies to be found anywhere in the world - not least in the extremely attractive high-tech sector.



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TRUST WATCH

THE Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) returned to the unit trust market this week with a vengeance. Less than a year after selling its Capital House unit trust operation to Newton Management, RBS has unveiled a new unit trust management arm that will sell its trusts through the bank's 750-strong UK branch network.

RBS is promoting five unit trusts that also offer low-cost regular monthly savings schemes. Three of the five trusts, Income, Growth and Balanced, qualify for inclusion in a personal equity plan. The other two are International Growth and International Bond funds. Newton will act as fund manager to the new RBS trusts, which are offering a 2 per cent launch discount on the front-end charge until April 30.

Norwich Union, the insurance group, has rolled out its twentieth unit trust. Its Balanced Income fund, which has a minimum investment of £1,000, has an initial gross yield of 7 per cent. The trust, which will invest in gilts, corporate bonds and high-yielding equities, can also be ring-fenced in a Pep.

A trust launch with a difference this week comes from Finsbury Asset Management with a Worldwide Pharmaceutical investment trust, the first of its kind. Up to 80 per cent of the proposed portfolio will be invested in larger global pharmaceutical companies with the remainder in smaller companies.

Because of its international bias, the new trust is a "non-qualifier" for Pep purposes, so only £1,500 can be sheltered within a Pep plan.

Offshore launches also featured strongly this week. Guinness Flight's Global Balanced Fund, which will invest in equities, bonds and cash, is based in Guernsey and is part of the company's Global Strategy umbrella fund. Minimum investment is £5,000 with an initial charge of 5 per cent (4 per cent until March 31).

Fidelity's new Switzerland fund will be based in Luxembourg where it joins the company's umbrella fund. The minimum investment is £1,500.
Details: RBS: 0800 716749
Norwich Union: 01603 684757
Finsbury: 0171-623 1363
Flight: 01481 712176
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Nearing the end of an unhappy chapter



COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH
Personal Finance Editor

A luxury Bond Street headquarters should soon be falling vacant, ending an unhappy chapter in the history of financial advice and investor protection.

Knight Williams, the controversial retirement planning business, may finally have found a buyer in the conservative-suited shape of Gerrard Vivian Gray, the stockbroker, a move that should bring a sigh of relief to Knight Williams's 24,000 clients.

For the hundreds who have made complaints about the performance of their funds, the only regret may be the whisper that Robin Knight Bruce, the chairman, and John Williams, managing director, may collect £1 million each from the sale.

The end of the home-income debacle is however not in sight. The road leading to compensation is like the M25 redesigned by the artist Escher, the illusion enthusiast. As in his *drawings, where flights of* stairs lead you on an eternal ascent and descent to nowhere, many elderly home-income plan victims have, in their search for recompense met impasse, cul-de-sac and one-way street.

Persuaded in the late Eighties to borrow against their homes and reinvest the proceeds in insurance company bonds, they believed that they would live happily ever after. Instead, they wake each day to the knowledge that their debts are growing larger. The bonds, now mostly surrendered, failed to fulfill their promise of providing an income and meeting the mortgage payments.

It is hoped that two developments, announced this week, will clarify the compensation rules and shed further light on the involvement of one major building society in the home-income plan affair.

The West Bromwich Building Society, which provided mortgages to the customers of Fisher Prew Smith, the now collapsed home-income plan firm, is finally to be called before the Commons Treasury and Civil Service Committee.

Late last year, the society's home-income plan dealings were the subject of a report compiled by Fimbra, the financial advisers' regulator. For the sake of the 600 West Bromwich home-income plan borrowers, the committee members should call for this document to made public.

The request should cause no problems whatsoever to the West Bromwich, as it has always pleaded its innocence. Publication should also be supported by the regulators, since they have consistently maintained that their supervision of home-income plan operators was beyond reproach. Meanwhile, on May 22, the Lords will pass judgment on an application by the Investors Compensation Scheme to limit the amounts it pays to thousands of home-income plan victims.

The ICS wishes to exclude sums withdrawn from plans for personal expenditure on items, such as cars and holidays.

The customers were led to believe that they were spending the profits from their bonds, rather than drawing down capital. Indeed, the directors of the firms often encouraged the purchase of the Mini Metro.

As in so many other things, these 70-year-olds were misled and deserve restitution without further delay. The cliché, "not getting any younger" sums up the urgency of their situation.

Firm urges public not to buy stock

Tony Hetherington on a bid to sell shares against a company's wishes



JEREMY SUTTON-HIBBERT

Channel i, a computer company, has signed a big contract with London Underground

A fledgeling computer company that has signed a big contract with London Underground is advising the public *not* to buy its shares. Hundreds of thousands of shares in Channel i, of Chelsea, are believed to have fallen into the hands of an offshore broking firm on the Costa del Sol, which has been ramping the price and issuing misleading information about the company.

Channel i has signed an agreement with London Underground to put information kiosks into scores of Tube stations. Passengers will be able to find out how to get from one part of London to another and get details on shops and tourist attractions.

The kiosks will also sell products such as insurance to travellers who can punch in their personal details while waiting for their trains to arrive. A quote will appear on the kiosk screen for whatever goods or services are requested. The customer can then pay by inserting a credit card or special Channel i swipe card.

Channel i is basically a British firm, but its shares are traded by few brokers in the US, where rules on dealing in the shares of start-up companies are more relaxed. In a bid to raise capital, directors were introduced by a small American firm called Resource Finance Group to Andy Kacic, an Arizona businessman, who offered to place hundreds of thousands of shares at about 66 cents (42p) each. Those shares appear to have passed via a company in Belgium to Datacorp, a broking firm headed by Peter Collins, an associate of Mr Kacic. Datacorp, which is based in Malaga in Spain, has been selling the shares at up to $7 (£4.50) each.

Datacorp — which has also been promoting shares in Resource Finance Group — is a classic share-pushing "boiler room" operation, well known to investor-protection officials in Europe and North America. It sends investment newsletters to members of the public by mailshots, and follows them up with hard-selling telephone calls from American or Canadian salesmen.

The company's office in Malaga, conceals the location of its telephone sales room. This was in a discreet office block in Marbella, and is now believed to be in Amsterdam.

Datacorp has circulated to clients a lavish brochure about Channel i. The brochure, which the company directors say they are trying to have withdrawn, shows pictures of information kiosks bearing the names of Hallords, the motoring suppliers shopping chain, and Direct Line, the car insurer.

Captions suggest the number of kiosks is in the process of growing from less than 100,000 in 1991 to more than two million in 1996. But careful reading of the brochure reveals this has nothing to do with Channel i. The figures relate to kiosks provided by rival companies in the US, where Channel i has none.

Direct Line said: "We did operate pilot kiosks for about two years in 20 Halfords stores. The screens were quite popular as far as people wanting quotes were concerned, but there just wasn't the volume of follow-up business so we abandoned it. That was about four years ago."

Direct Line was unaware that the brochure issued in support of Channel i's shares gave the impression of a current link between the two companies. "That is very naughty!" it said.

Jeremy Renton, a Channel i director, said that the brochure produced in America was not the responsibility of the company. He said: "The price at which these shares are being sold is ridiculous. It is not in our interests at all that this should be happening."

Mr Kacic was unavailable for comment and did not return calls.

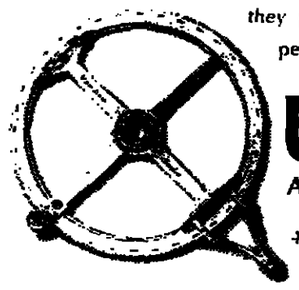
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Disclosure prompts CU product revamp

Money Marketing 12 January 1995

Allied Dunbar to replace pensions with single plan

By Alison Smith

Allied Dunbar, the life insurer owned by BAT Industries, the tobacco and financial services group, is to replace its range of pension policies with a single adaptable plan intended to give customers greater flexibility.

From the start of next year, customers will be able to decide on specific payment term for regular contributions, and switch between different types of personal pension within a single plan.

The commissions which Allied Dunbar pays its sales force and independent financial advisers will be trimmed and spread over a longer period of the policy instead of being taken entirely from the initial premiums.

The move is a further sign of the way the life insurance industry is responding to the forthcoming new regulatory regime.

Financial Times 22 November 1994

Prudential plans changes to meet policy sales rules

By Alison Smith

Prudential Corporation yesterday became the latest life insurer to respond to new rules on giving more information to customers buying policies, by promising to introduce changes next year.

Financial Times 8 December 1994

Sun Alliance revamps products to fit disclosure

Pensions Management February 1995

NU launches new pensions range

Pensions Management February 1995

Norwich Union has launched a range of new unitised with profit pension products in line with the introduction of hard disclosure on commission

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Drug shares enjoy good run

All eyes turned to the pharmaceuticals sector last month when Glaxo unveiled Britain's biggest bid, a £9 billion-plus hostile offer for Wellcome (Liz Dolan writes).

Drug company shares have already enjoyed a good run, with all stocks moving up pretty well in line. But Robin Gilbert, of Panmure Gordon, the stockbroker, says: "We still think there's more to go for."

Others are less convinced. Once Wellcome is out of the running, Zeneca will be the only credible takeover prospect, but it is already the second most expensive drugs business in the world in terms of its price/earnings ratio. Its current market value is £8 billion, representing a hefty outlay for any predator. Glaxo, strongly rumoured to have approached, and been rebuffed by, Zeneca before going for Wellcome, is one of very few international drugs companies able to afford that kind of money.

The Wellcome acquisition will wipe out Glaxo's £2.5 billion cash pile and leave it with a debt of more than £3 billion, ruling out any other sizeable bids from that quarter for some years to come.

Shares in Wellcome, which rocketed 273p to 961p when the bid was announced, had grown to 1,024p by the end of this week. A white knight could still up the ante. Depending on the size of any new offer, Glaxo will probably cap it. But, has anyone the will, and the means, to join the fray?

SmithKline Beecham is pretty much takeover-proof. "You'd need to offer at least £20 billion for it and I can't see anyone coming up with that," says one stockbroker.

While realistic takeover targets may be thin on the ground, some stocks may still have something to offer the investor. Panmure is forecasting a 25 per cent uplift in Glaxo's profits in 1995-96, if the deal goes through, and the shares have moved little since the bid was announced.

Solid, and steady, SB should not be ruled out, Mr Gilbert says, and Zeneca has an enviable list of products in the pipeline. The only other stocks of any size in the sector are Medeva and Fisons. Medeva's ambition to become an international drugs giant will be largely achieved through acquisition. For that, it will need equity funding, which means decent earnings growth. Problems with previous acquisitons, which sparked a surprise profits warning in 1993, appear to have been solved. The share price has now caught up with the rest of the sector, after a 20 per cent outperformance last year, and the company is back on the acquisition trail.

Medeva's strange concoction of businesses and unusual management structure render it an unattractive takeover prospect.

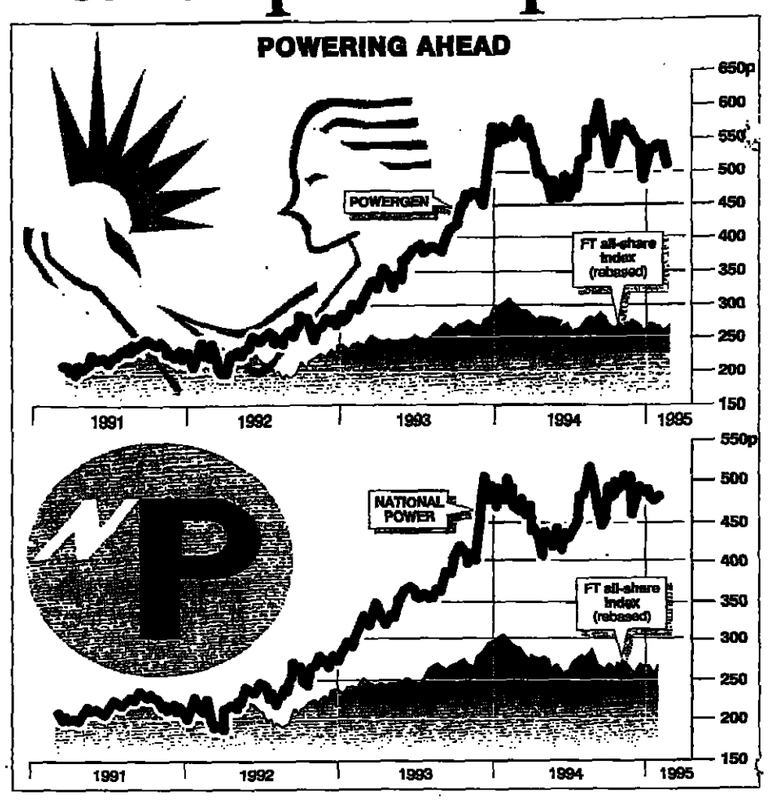
SECTOR IN FOCUS



Share of the week, page 30

Switch on to power perks

Investors should act now to get the most out of power shares. Liz Dolan reports



Time is running out for investors planning to register for the National Power and PowerGen offer. You have until this Tuesday, St Valentine's Day, to log your details with one of the 130 participating share shops.

If you miss the deadline, you can still buy the shares, but will forfeit your right to the perks. Existing shareholders are not registered automatically.

More details of the float emerged on Monday this week with the publication of the pathfinder prospectus. The publication had been delayed for a week after an eleventh-hour intervention by the electricity regulator, Stephen Littlechild, forced City advisers to rewrite key sections of the prospectus.

Opinions differ as to why Professor Littlechild chose such a sensitive moment to castigate the generators for failing to control electricity prices. However, his timing certainly maximised the impact on any investors who are already nervous about the regulatory question marks overhanging the shares.

Q Have they fixed the offer price yet?

A Not exactly. The price of the first two instalments was revealed on Monday, but you will have to wait until the offer closes on March 6 before the third, and final, payment is announced. The first two instalments are the same: 170p per NP share and 185p per PowerGen share. The second instalment is due on February 6 next year and the third six months later. The first instalment will be lower for private shareholders than institutional investors. This discount is expected to be about 10 per cent.

Q What is the minimum investment?

A The minimum initial investment through the ordinary public offer is £352, which means a minimum total investment of about £1,000 if you stay the course for the full 18 months. You must apply for at least 200 shares. 120 NP and 80 PowerGen. The minimum initial investment via the retail tender offer is £3,000, which means about £8,000 in total.

Q When should private investors consider applying through the retail tender offer?

A When they want more shares than they are likely to get through the UK public offer, especially if they are planning to Pep them. Preference will be given to retail tender applicants committed to a Pep. There are some 110 retail tender brokers, most of which are also share shops. You forfeit you right to perks if you choose this route.

Q What perks are offered?

A You have a choice of two. The first is a discount of 25p a share on the first 800 shares allocated — 10p off the second instalment and 15p off the third. Alternatively, you may prefer to receive one free share for every 15 held. The latter applies to the first 1,200 shares, held continuously until 31 March, 1998. Existing shareholders in either company on September 30, 1994, get preference in allocation if they quote their shareholder number when registering.

Q Do the experts reckon the shares are worth buying?

A Yes, on the whole. They look particularly attractive over the next year, largely because of the high dividend yield on the partly paid shares, reckoned to be about 14 per cent as the dividend payment is the same as on fully paid shares. Also, says Jeff Plowman of Wise Speke, the broker, FT-SE stocks are generally at their cheapest levels since 1987. However, by next year, the picture gets more complicated as both companies are expected to be facing increasing competition in the UK generating market.

Q What sort of dividends can I expect to receive?

A Your first dividend from PowerGen will be about 10p a share and, from National Power, 11.1p a share. Kleinwort Benson, joint broker to the issue, reckons that fears of unwelcome takeover bids will encourage the Gencos to follow a strategy of high dividend growth and share buy-backs to keep shareholders sweet.

Q Should I be concerned about the effect the regulator will have on the share price?

A It depends partly how long you are planning to hang on to your shares. Changes aimed at improving competition in the generating market will have a long-term effect on both businesses. If they are not carried out by a specific deadline, Offer, the regulator, is likely to refer both businesses to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Over the next 12 months, other considerations are probably more important.

Kleinwort Benson says: "Offer's aim is not to constantly screw down market prices, but to ensure generator prices are set by a competitive market." The problem is not new. All privatised utilities are answerable to a regulator. These are commonly criticised by consumer organisations for not being tough enough. Professor Littlechild himself was hauled over the coals this week for allowing Genco bosses to feather their own nests with huge salaries and generous share options.

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Liz Dolan and **Ian Hunter** look at the advice and assistance on offer to cope with redundancy

Help on the home front for jobless

Nearly 3,000 people lost their jobs this week when Rumbelows and Fona, the electrical chains, went out of business. The news will not have come as a complete surprise to many of them, as the press has been full of speculation about Rumbelows's demise for some time. But this will have done nothing to ease the pain of redundancy.

As employees of a large company — the stores were owned by Thorn EMI, the music and rentals giant — they will get more than the statutory redundancy package. This is just as well, as the legal minimum payoff is between £102.50 and £307.50 for every year worked, which is not going to keep many wolves from many doors for long.

Under current regulations, people with mortgages who qualify for income support will at least get their monthly mortgage interest paid by the Department of Social Security. At the moment, mortgages are covered only up to £125,000. This will be cut to £100,000 in April. Payment is made at a reduced rate of 50 per cent for the first 16 weeks, but the DSS will consider requests for help in meeting mortgage arrears that have built up during that time.

Assistance is also available for related expenses, such as ground rent and essential repairs. Any benefit received from any mortgage-protection policy will be taken into account too.

Matters become more complicated after October, when new borrowers lose the right to state assistance with their mortgages, and initial payments for existing borrowers on income support will be further reduced.

The Government expects private insurers to plug the gaps, but lenders and insurers are unhappy. The self-employed and people on short-term contracts are likely to have a particularly tough time finding affordable cover, let alone getting insurers to pay out if the need arises.

There will also be many more opportunities for mix-ups and communication breakdowns between insurers, lenders and the DSS, as is amply illustrated by the case of Jane Winston, a reader. Ms Winston had the foresight to take out a protection plan to cover the mortgage payments if she was unable to work. When she was made redundant in 1993, the policy started to pay out.

The DSS then told her that, because of the money she was receiving from the policy, she would get only £15 a week in income support. "I was horrified," Ms Winston says. "That was supposed to pay for food, heating and other basic living expenses. It just didn't seem right."

She was further depressed when her local Citizens Advice Bureau confirmed that the DSS's calculations were correct. "They looked at the figures and said there was nothing they could do."

But Ms Winston was still convinced that something was wrong and visited another branch of the CAB. It was only then she discovered that her lender, the Halifax Building Society, had made a mistake with the figures. "They said my mortgage was £14,000, but it's actually £21,000. My insurance policy pays a bit extra after mortgage payments have been taken into account. The DSS looked at the Halifax's figures and worked out that I had a lot more over each week than I actually did."

In fact, Ms Winston receives £200 a month from the insurance company. She pays £150 to the Halifax, leaving less than £12.50 a week to live on. Her income-support payments have now been raised to £37.50. "I don't know what would have happened if I had just accepted the DSS's first offer," she says.



The self-employed are likely to have a tough time finding affordable insurance policies

Know your rights

Employees who are made redundant have certain rights and may be entitled to compensation.

The contractual claim normally relates to the employer's failure to give proper notice of dismissal. The starting point for calculating damages is the value of the net salary and benefits, such as pension contributions or use of a car, that the employee would have enjoyed during the notice period.

However, the employee is under a duty to seek to reduce the size of the claim by finding suitable alternative employment. Employees who find suitable comparable employment immediately or who are allowed to work out the notice period, will not be able to bring a claim.

Those who have worked for the same employer for more than two years may have a claim for unfair dismissal. The statutory award is made up of two parts. The first is a basic award that entitles the employee to between £102.50 and £307.50 for each completed year of employment, depending on age. The second, the compensatory award, is limited to £11,000.

An employee also has the right to seek re-engagement or reinstatement. However, such orders are granted only in exceptional cases. The employee can also claim in respect of outstanding salary, holiday pay, bonuses or commission.

Contractual claims, until last July, could be pursued only in the courts. Applications to the court must be made within six years of dismissal. Legal Aid is available to eligible claimants.

Since July, industrial tribunals have had authority to hear contractual claims. They now have the power to award compensation of up to £25,000.

Up to the first £30,000 of any compensation payment, whether awarded by an industrial tribunal or a court, can usually be paid free of tax.

Employees may also be able to negotiate additional benefits at little extra cost to the employer. For example, if the employee is in a company health scheme or is a potential beneficiary under a life assurance policy, he or she can often be retained on the group policy at no extra cost until the renewal date.

Some employers will sell company cars to employees at written-down value, or let employees keep items such as personal computers.

If sufficient National Insurance Contributions (NICs) have been made, employees are entitled to unemployment benefit of £45.45 a week for up to a year. The benefit is taxable, but is unaffected by the claimant's savings or a partner's earnings.

The right to unemployment benefit may be prejudiced if the employee has been dismissed for misconduct, or has left employment voluntarily. Entitlement may also be affected by the size of any payment in lieu of notice.

Those who have not made sufficient NICs may be eligible for income support and help with interest payments on a mortgage, at present, of up to £125,000. Combined savings of a claimant and any partner must not exceed £8,000. Savings between £3,000 and £8,000 affect the benefit paid. Freeline Social Security offers advice on 0800 666555.

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*October 1994 issue, Personal Pension Plans Survey: lowest charges over 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years. Foreign & Colonial Management Ltd (regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority) or its subsidiaries are the Managers of the investment trusts. The value of shares and the income from them can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the full amount invested. Past performance is no guide to the future. Tax benefits may vary and their value depends on individual circumstances.

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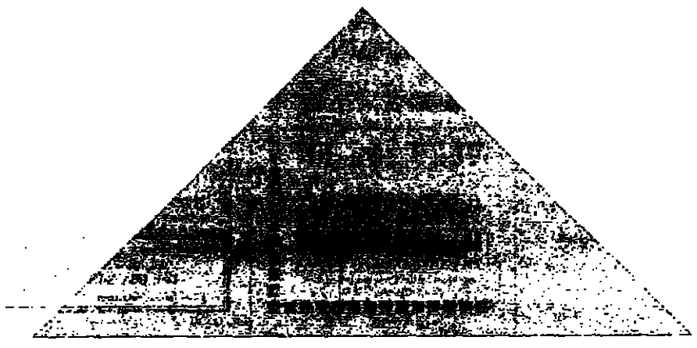
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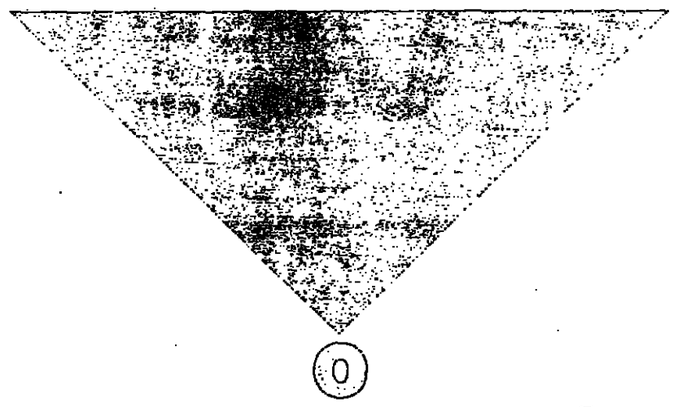
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THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Gold cards lose some of lustre

THE gold card overdraft, introduced in the easy credit days of the Eighties, has, in the sober Nineties, lost some of its lustre. But it can still be worth having, particularly if you are allowed to borrow up to £10,000, a concession often now restricted to long-standing holders, at a preferential rate (Rodney Hobson writes).

In the Eighties, gold cards were offered to homeowners earning more than £20,000 a year. The card carried an annual fee at a time when ordinary credit cards were issued without charge, but its unique selling proposition was the automatic £10,000 overdraft facility at 2.5 or 3 points above base rate.

As bad debts rose and interest rates fell, the generosity of the banks was put to the test. Some widened the gap between base rates and the preferential overdraft rate. Others reduced or did away with the facility for new borrowers.

National Westminster initially set its preferential rate at three points above base rate but later switched to a "managed" rate. As base rates were reduced, the gap gradually widened. When the base rate dipped to 5.25 per cent, the preferential rate was trailing at 10 per cent. NatWest also switched from calculating interest on a quarterly basis to charging monthly.

NatWest gold card holders have so far been spared a rise in their overdraft rate, but the gap still stands at 3.75 points, even after the latest base rate rise. Barclays scrapped the right to a facility while Midland now has a £2,500 limit.

Like NatWest, Barclays switched to a managed rate. In 1990, its gold card customers paid only 2.5 points above base rate. Those who clung to their facility now pay 13 per cent. Midland may have reduced its facility, but borrowers still get 2.5 points above base rate.

Lloyds no longer offers the gold Amex card. It now has its own gold credit card without an automatic facility and a gold debit card with a minimum facility of £2,500. It also switched to a managed rate, which was raised by half a point to 11.8 per cent at the beginning of October.

Clydesdale Bank still offers a £10,000 overdraft, with interest set at only 2.5 points above base rate. Bank of Scotland has raised the minimum salary requirement for gold card applicants to £25,000, but allows holders to request overdrafts up to £15,000. It charges 2.5 points over base rate.

GOLD CARD CHARGES

	Card name/type	Min income	Fee	Automatic O/D Min-Max	%pa
American Express	Gold Amex	Discretionary	£85	None	—
Bank of Scotland	Premier Visa	£25k	£70	Neg-£15k	2.5ABR
Barclays	Premier Visa	£25k	£80	Negotiable	1.04 pm*
Coutts & Co	Gld MsterCrd	Discretionary	£120	£20k	min 11
First Trust Bank	Premier Visa	Discretionary	£50	Neg-£10k	2.5ABR*
Midland	Gld MsterCrd	£25k	£70	£2.5k-neg	2.5ABR
NatWest	Gld Plus MC	£25k	£95	£10k-neg	10
Northern Bank	Gld MsterCrd	£25k	£40	£10k	2.5ABR
Robert Fleming	Premier Visa	£40k	Nil	Neg-£10k	2.5ABR
Ryl Bnk of Scotland	Gold MsterCrd	£25k	£25	None	—

* = overdraft not automatic ABR = Above Base Rate z = banks own customers only.
Source: MoneyFacts February 10, 1995

Signs of life at Fisons

FISONS has been a disaster for years (Liz Dolan writes). The pharmaceuticals and scientific equipment company has long been dogged by production and regulatory difficulties. More recently, there have been rumours that demand for its biggest seller, Intal, the asthma drug, is in sharp decline.

But, this week, the bombed-out shares began to show signs of life on talk that Stuart Wallis, the chief executive, will announce cost savings of £100 million, mainly in the areas of administration and research and development, at the annual results meeting on March 7. A buyer may also have been found for the scientific equipment division.

Mr Wallis is expected to report profits of about £65 million, against £1 million. The shares, recently struggling to stay above their ten-year low, have added 7p to 116p since Thursday (see chart).

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	1st Class Acc	Postal	£1,000	6.20	Yl
Skipton BS 01756 700511	3 High Street	Instant	£2,000	6.25	Yly
Britannia BS 01538 391741	Capital Trust	Postal	£10,000	6.50	Yly

FIXED RATES	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Cheshire BS 0800 243278	Fixed Option	30.6.97	£5,000	8.50	F/Yly
Britannia BS 0800 269655	3 year Fixed	3yr bond	£2,000	8.75	F/Yly
Cooperative Bank 0800 125100	Fixed Rate Bond	3yr bond	£2,000	9.25	OM
Bristol & West BS 01179 294271	Fixed Rate Bond	5yr bond	£5,000	8.70	F/Mly

TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744500		5 year	£8,900	9.00	F/Yly
Hinckley & Rugby BS 01455 251234		5 year	£3,000 A	7.65	Yly
Julian Hodge Bank 01222 220800		5 year	£20	8.00	Yly
Dunfermline BS 01383 627727		5 year	£3,000	7.50	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming S&P 0800 282101	MasterCard/Visa	1.00%	14.60%	£12
Royal Bank of Scotland 01702 349393	MasterCard	1.25%	16.00%	Nil C
Alliance & Leicester 0500 900250	Visa	1.375%	18.90%	£10 E

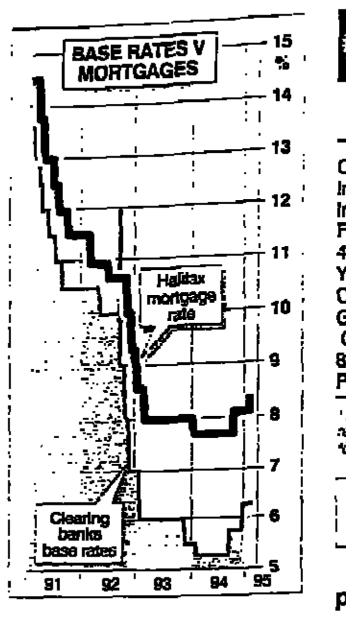
PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

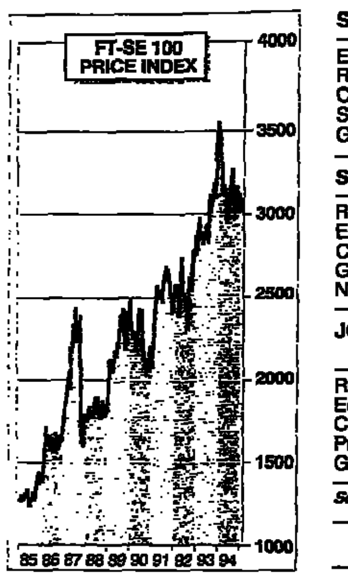
	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
Northern Bank (NI) 01232 245277	13.60%	£114.27	£100.83
Midland Bank 0345 180180	15.40%	£116.54	£103.14
N&P BS	15.50%	£118.22	£103.29
Abbey National 01908 680140	15.90%	£115.81	£103.77

Nb. A - Feeder account required. In the interest paid columns, C = no interest free period D = annual fee rebated £1.5K+ charged per annum E = Annual fee waived for 1st year for new accounts F = fixed rate (all other rates are variable): OM denotes interest paid on maturity

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 665)





NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 25%	40%	Min/maximum investment £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c¹	2.00	1.50	1.20	10-10,000	...	010416494555
Investment A/c* ₆	5.25	3.94	3.15	20-500	1mth	010416494555
Income Bond* ₆	6.50	4.88	3.90	2,000-24,999	3mth	010253766151
First Opt Bond₄	6.40	4.80	3.84	1,000-250,000		010416382558
42nd Issue Cert₁₃	5.85			100-10,000	8day	010913884100
Yearly Plan₁₃	5.85			20-400/mth	14day	010913884100
Children's Bond†	7.86			25-1,000	1mth	010416382535
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					
Capital Bond₅ ₆	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-250,000	8day	010416382603
8th Index Linked†₃	3.00			100-10,000	8day	010913884900
Pensnrs Bond S2 ₆	7.50	5.63	4.50	500-20,000₅	60day	010253766151

¹ first £70 (£140 jt) of int tax free. [illegible] for up to £100 ² Additional hldgs up to £20,000 for [illegible] ³ Tax free ⁴ Rates gross and vble ⁵ Guaranteed when held for 5 years [illegible]

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Equit Life ....Level	£10,970	£12,004	£13,330
Royal Life ....Level	£10,782	£11,896	£13,411
Can Life ....Level	£10,556	£11,710	£13,276
Stan Life ....Level	£10,688	£11,732	£13,100
Generali ....Level	£10,692	£11,706	£13,032

SINGLE LIFE	Female: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Royal Life ....Level	£10,064	£10,876	£12,084
Equitable ....Level	£9,933	£10,743	£11,862
Can Life ....Level	£9,739	£10,536	£11,778
Generali ....Level	£9,805	£10,636	£11,792
Norwich ....Level	£9,774	£10,498	£11,574

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS	Male: Age 60 / Female: Age 55	Age 65 / Age 60	Age 70 / Age 65
Royal Life ....Level	£9,624	£10,242	£11,135
Equitable ....Level	£9,549	£10,163	£11,008
Can Life ....Level	£9,335	£9,979	£10,897
Prudential....Level	£9,525	£10,083	£10,89[illegible]
Generali ....Level	£9,463	£10,067	£10,905

Source: Annuity Direct (071 375 1175)

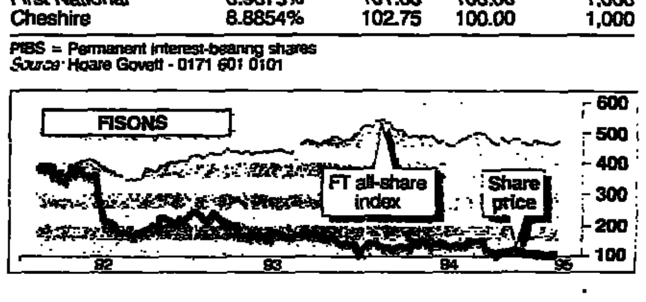
Compiled by: Morag Preston

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	89.50	10.469	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	113.50	10.242	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	126.25	10.297	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	127.75	10.470	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	124.25	10.463	100.42	1,000
Cheltenham & Glos	11.750%	116.25	10.108	100.96	50,000
Coventry	12.125%	114.50	10.574	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	103.25	11.380	100.25	10,000
Halifax	8.750%	88.00	9.943	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	119.25	10.063	100.28	50,000
Leeds Permanent	13.625%	135.25	10.074	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	126.75	10.552	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	102.375	10.501	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	121.00	10.434	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	121.00	10.434	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	122.00	10.553	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
First National	8.9875%	101.00	100.00	1,000
Cheshire	8.8854%	102.75	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source: Hoare Govett - 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bradford & Bingley 0800 252 993	3.15	£15k+	75	5.3% discount for 12 months
Britannia 0800 526350	3.15	£40k+	80	5.29% discount to 2.1.96
Northern Rock 0800 591 500	2.49	to £150k	90	6.05% discount to 1.5.96
Banks				
Lloyds Local branch	3.35	£60k+	60	4.75% discount for 1 year
NatWest Home Loans 0121 234 8013	3.35	£120k+	75	4.75% discount for 1 year

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Coventry 01203 839333	2.00	to £125k	75	6.40% disc-12 mnths
Hinckley & Rugby 0455 251234	1.50	to £150k	60	Rate fixed to 1.11.95
Yorkshire 0274 740740	1.70	£25-£150k	95	Rate fixed to 1.10.95
Banks				
NatWest Home Loans 0121 234 3000	3.35	£120k+	75	Rate fixed for 1 year
NYPO - MSL 0344 394000	2.90	£15,001-£500k+	90	Rated fixed to 1.3.96

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Britannia 0800 526350	2.90	to £100k	80	5.45% to 2.1.96
Scarborough 0800 590547	1.50	£35-£150k	95	6.95%-6 months 2% for 1 year
Skipton 0800 590545	2.24	to £150k	95	6%-5 months then 1.75% for 1 year
Banks				
B of Scotland 0132 556 8555	4.19	£150-250k	90	3.25% discount to 31.1.96
Lloyds Local Branch	3.35	£60K+	95	4.75% discount for 1 year

Larger lenders, larger loans and first-time buyers tables supplied by Blay's Guides Ltd. Further information: Blay's Guides, 01753 880482.

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UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 071 538 8500				
Balanced	452.90	470.30	+5.70	
UK Equity	567.20	600.30	+6.40	
Property	486.60	515.00	0.00	
Fixed Interest	515.40	533.00	+3.30	
Money	252.40	270.10	+0.20	
International	374.50	396.40	+9.90	
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0202 292373				
Property Fd Inc	279.10	293.80		
-do- Acc	522.30	555.10	+0.10	
Equity Fd Inc	164.40	173.10	+2.90	0.0
-do- Acc	219.30	230.90	+4.00	0.0
Selective Fd	485.40	511.00	+3.70	0.0
Money Fd	380.10	400.20	-0.40	
Prop Fd Ser 4	411.10	432.90	-0.10	
Equity Ser 4	211.40	222.60	+2.90	
Man Ser 4	651.50	685.60	+8.20	0.0
Conv Ser 4	330.60	348.00	-0.30	
Money Ser 4	330.30	347.70	+0.30	
Fixed Int Ser 4	343.70	361.80	+1.90	0.0
American Ser 4	488.20	513.90	-12.50	0.0
High Inc Ser 4	662.50	697.40	+9.10	0.0
Indexed Inv Ser 4	207.70	218.70	+1.00	0.0
Japan Ser 4	339.70	357.60	-0.90	0.0
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 0707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	£14.96	£15.75	+19.70	
European Fd Acc	361.70	380.70	+6.10	
Fixed Int Acc	499.10	525.30	-2.40	
Gtd Money Acc	336.80	354.40	-0.20	
Intl Managed Acc	580.50	611.00	+8.30	
Inv Fxd Int Acc	318.30	335.10	-3.30	
Japan Fund	251.30	264.40	-2.90	
N American Acc	314.80	331.40	+8.10	
Prop Fd Acc	447.10	470.60	+0.50	
Multiple Inv Acc	999.90	£10.52	+13.40	
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 0793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	374.70	394.50	+0.20	
Equity Acc	£13.63	£14.34	+19.80	
Property Acc	584.90	615.70	-0.60	
Far East Acc	295.90	311.50	-8.40	
Managed Capital	514.00	541.10	+6.30	
-do- Acc	£10.57	£11.13	+13.10	
Overseas Acc	908.20	956.00	+19.20	
Gilt Edged Acc	477.10	502.30	+3.10	
Amer Equity Acc	766.00	806.40	+22.40	
Amer Man Acc	327.10	344.40	+9.20	
Amer Prop Acc	117.40	123.60	-1.40	
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 0494 463463				
Reserve Ser 6	158.30	166.50	+0.80	
Balcd Ser 6	699.80	736.60	+12.70	
Opportunity Ser 6	156.70	164.90	+2.90	
Distribution Ser 6	99.20	104.40	+1.10	6.90
UK Equities Ser 6	950.00	999.90	+18.70	
Higher Inc Ser 6	£10.22	£10.76	+22.90	
North Amer Ser 6	452.60	476.40	+20.20	
Far East Ser 6	542.20	570.70	+8.80	
Europe Ser 6	363.60	382.70	+8.00	
Intnl Ser 6	546.60	575.30	+15.20	
Property Ser 6	578.30	608.70	+0.10	
Fixed Int Ser 6	431.10	453.70	+3.00	
Ind-Lnkd Sec S6	177.70	187.00	-0.90	
Gteed Dep Ser 6	298.00	313.60	+0.30	
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 081 534 5544				
Equity Acc	815.00	857.90	+10.30	
-do- Initial	535.20	563.40	+6.70	
Gilt Edged Acc	375.90	395.70	+1.90	
-do- Initial	249.00	262.20	+1.20	
International Acc	385.20	405.50	+6.90	
-do- Initial	253.60	267.00	+4.60	
Managed Acc	507.80	534.60	+6.30	
-do- Initial	335.40	353.10	+4.10	
Money Acc	292.70	308.20	+0.20	
Property Acc	305.40	321.50	+0.30	
-do- Initial	200.60	211.20	-0.10	
America Acc	269.70	283.90	+7.60	
Australia Acc	196.20	206.60	-1.10	
Financial Acc	314.20	330.80	+5.70	
500 Accum	420.10	442.30	+1.00	
Japan Genl Acc	318.10	334.90	+1.60	
Income Acc	491.90	526.30	+8.70	
Leisure Acc	219.00	230.60	-1.00	
Special Sits Acc	226.50	238.50	+1.80	
Univ Tech Acc	152.10	160.20	-4.00	
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 0634 834000				
The Managed Fd	783.08	783.08	+14.97	
Income Fund	743.85	783.0	+8.53	
Extra Income	674.97	710.50	+8.74	
Worldwide Gth	464.70	489.16	+10.49	
Balanced Fund	645.13	679.09	+8.33	
Smllr Cos Recov	655.33	689.83	-1.71	
N Amer & Genrl	343.64	361.73	+11.50	
Pacific Basin	394.17	414.92	+31.02	
German Growth	231.93	244.14	+4.87	
Japan Growth	167.75	176.58	-1.05	
The UK Gth Fd	203.71	214.44	+2.74	
Contl Euro Gth	130.76	137.65	+4.16	
Property Fund	414.18	435.98	+0.23	
Fixed Interest	300.96	316.80	+1.14	
Cash Fund	284.78	299.77	+0.23	
Managed Inv	474.10	499.05	+9.50	
Nth Amer Recov	229.14	241.20	+9.27	
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Gth	489.33	515.09	+4.16	
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE PO Box 37, Greenock, Renfrewshire 0475 868000				
Measured Perf	154.70	163.00	+2.00	
Performance Plus	151.10	159.80	+1.60	
With Profit Perf	173.00	183.00	+0.10	

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Opportunity	172.10	182.10	+2.80	
Euro Opportunity	220.20	233.00	+1.60	
North Amer Opp	161.00	170.30	+3.30	
Far East Opp	174.40	184.50	+4.10	
Gont Prop Ser 1	125.80	132.50	-0.50	
Gth Prop Ser 2	182.10	192.60	-1.80	
Fixed Int	185.20	195.90	+1.20	
Cash	157.30	166.40		
Overseas	174.00	184.10	+1.90	
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	321.70	338.70	+6.20	
UK Equity	535.90	564.20	+14.60	
Property	285.30	300.40		
Money Market	253.40	266.80	+0.10	
Fixed Interest	296.00	311.60	-0.20	
Japan	347.70	366.00	-0.60	
North America	146.30	154.00	+2.70	
International	271.70	286.00	+3.50	
European	264.70	280.70	+2.60	
Far East	122.60	129.10	+3.10	
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 0707 51122				
Equity Growth	271.60			
Managed	317.20	333.90	+4.00	
Property	237.50	250.00	-0.10	
Gilt & Fxd Int	237.60	250.20	+1.30	
Equity	351.40	369.90	+4.40	
Cash	217.50	229.00	+0.10	
CLife Euro Mgd	366.70	386.10	+9.50	
CLife Intl Fd	342.40	360.50	+7.90	
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 0908 606101				
Property Fund	174.30	183.40		
Managed Fund	579.40	607.20	+9.30	
Equity Fund	331.30	348.80	+7.40	
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0272 290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	277.40	292.10	+4.30	
Ruby	165.30	174.10	+2.20	
Emerald	142.90	150.50	+0.70	
Equity	315.70	332.40	+5.40	
Property	232.20	244.50	+0.30	
Gilt & Fixed Int	198.60	209.10	+1.20	
Indexed Secs	164.80	173.50	+0.80	
Cash	188.30	198.30	+0.10	
Nth American	217.60	229.10	+6.00	
Far East	303.10	319.10	+12.30	
International	231.80	244.00	+4.00	
Special Sits	311.70	328.20	+0.10	
Intl Income	281.10	295.90	+5.30	
American Inc	188.50	198.50	+4.30	
European	315.80	332.50	+5.40	
Japanese	137.10	144.40	-0.90	
SE Asia	339.20	357.10	+14.30	
With Profits Reg	166.60	175.40	+0.20	
-do- Spec	166.60	175.40	+0.20	
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	309.60	325.90	+5.00	
Equity	368.30	387.80	+5.90	
Property	215.00	226.40		
Gilt & Fxd Int	247.30	260.40	+1.50	
Index Linked	174.20	183.40	+0.80	
Cash	252.20	265.50	+0.20	
Nth American	264.70	278.70	+8.90	
Far East Acc	297.60	313.30	+5.40	
International Acc	289.70	305.00	+4.90	
Special Sits	450.00	473.70	+4.70	
European Fics	432.60	455.40	+8.50	
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 0634 890 000				
(Units) Key	£10.28	...	-0.12	
-do- Pacemaker	£302.25	...	-0.27	
-do- Cash	214.14	214.88	+0.13	
-do- Equity	325.09	352.73	+11.13	
-do- Fxd Int	349.91	368.33	+2.36	
-do- Managed	377.01	396.85	+5.88	
-do- Property	293.34	308.78	-1.20	
(Pens) Cash Cap	208.21	219.18	+0.02	
-do- Cash Inv	306.58	322.73	+0.26	
-do- Equity Cap	£13.33	£14.03	+11.20	
-do- Equity Inv	£19.63	£20.66	+17.87	
-do- Fixed Cap	379.87	399.87	+1.48	
-do- Fixed Inv	559.33	588.76	+2.55	
-do- Index Cap	194.89	205.16	+0.20	
-do- Index Inv	286.96	302.08	+0.50	
Mngd Cap	535.67	563.87	+4.04	
Mngd Inv	788.74	830.26	+6.51	
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3. 071 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5)	1867.86	...	+14.06	
Var Ann (5)	387.98	...	+1.54	
Prime Managed	390.10	410.70	+6.60	
Prime UK Equity	468.20	492.90	+7.20	
Prime Int Equity	293.90	309.40	+7.80	
Prime Property	253.30	266.70	-0.10	
Prime Fxd Int	227.20	239.20	+1.30	
Prime Index-Lnk	166.20	175.00	+0.80	
Prime Cash	206.80	217.70	+0.20	
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 0438 744840				
Managed Fund	£10.90	£11.48	+4.50	0.0
Equity Fund	£15.68	£16.50	+9.50	
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 0483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	578.90	609.30	+9.70	
Life Fxd Int Acc	366.70	385.90	+2.10	
Life Equity Acc	806.20	848.60	+14.70	
Life Money Acc	302.70	318.60	-0.20	
Life Inv Tst Acc	768.00	808.40	+12.30	
Life Intl Acc	483.20	508.60	+8.90	
Life High Inc Acc	781.70	822.80	+17.10	
Life Property Acc	259.50	273.10	+0.20	
Crown Brit Inv A	£13.10	...		
Brewin Equity	657.10	691.60	+9.80	

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 0242 221311				
Secure Fund	176.60	185.90	+0.20	
Managed Fund	231.30	243.50	+3.50	
-do- Series 2	151.70	159.70	+2.40	
Adventurous Fd	184.30	194.00	+3.70	
-do- Series 2	141.20	148.70	+2.90	
Equity Mngd Fd	234.50	246.90	+4.40	
-do- Series 2	155.40	163.60	+3.00	
UK Pref Fxd Int	138.40	145.70	+0.70	
UK Equity Fund	155.60	163.80	+2.30	
Property Fund	121.90	128.40	-2.10	
Envrnmnd Opps	155.40	163.60	+1.30	
Euro Fund	183.40	193.10	+3.70	
North Amer Fd	186.30	196.20	+5.70	
Oriental Ops	221.90	233.60	+12.00	
Japanese Fund	119.10	125.40	-0.10	
Bd & West Life	124.90	131.40	+0.10	
Bd & West Pen	141.00	148.50	+0.20	
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 071 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	250.50	259.60	+4.50	3.53
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 0722 413366				
Managed (Mixd)	296.20	311.80	+4.60	
UK Equity	391.90	412.60	+6.60	
Stewardship	328.00	345.30	+2.00	
Overseas Equity	271.30	285.60	+4.90	
North American	146.50	154.30	+3.30	
Pacific Basin	156.00	164.30	+3.90	
European	214.50	225.80	+3.80	
Property	204.50	215.30	+0.20	
Fixed Interest	227.30	239.30	+1.50	
Index Linked	163.90	172.60	+0.60	
Cash	201.80	212.50	+0.20	
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Fixed Interest	525.10	552.70	+4.10	
Managed	679.30	715.00	+9.50	
Deposit	346.20	364.40	+0.30	
Property	486.80	512.40	+0.60	
American	416.30	438.20	+8.60	
Australian	480.30	505.50	-2.70	
European	523.90	551.40	+9.60	
Income Acc	736.80	775.50	+13.40	
-do- Dist	429.30	451.80	+10.40	4.28
International	301.00	316.80	-6.80	
Japan Smaller	485.70	511.20	-7.70	
Singapore & Mal	375.00	394.70	+9.50	
Smaller Cos	389.90	410.40	-0.20	
Tokyo Fund	649.10	683.30	+2.40	
UK Equity	573.00	603.10	+10.30	
CCM Vangd Mg	721.70	759.60	+10.30	
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 071 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	312.30	328.80	+4.70	
GT Plan Wwide	473.70	498.70	+3.30	
GAN LIFE & PENSIONS Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 0279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	670.10	670.10	+10.00	
-do- Inv A	670.00	705.40	+10.50	
UK Equity	396.50	417.50	+5.70	
Gilt Plus	198.50	209.10	+0.90	
Managed	297.40	313.20	+4.80	
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR. 0904 628982				
Managed	204.10	214.80	-3.10	
Unitised Profit	138.20	145.40	+0.20	
UK Equity	268.10	282.10	+1.60	
Fixed Int	189.40	199.20	+1.30	
Index-Linked	160.60	169.00	+0.80	
Cash Deposit	175.20	184.30	+0.10	
Property	192.90	202.90	+0.10	
International	169.10	177.90	+4.40	
American	158.00	166.30	+3.80	
Japan	232.00	244.10	-0.20	
Japan Smllr Cos	237.50	249.90	-0.30	
European	180.50	189.90	+3.40	
Pacific Fund	272.10	286.30	+8.20	
Conv Life	132.70	139.10	+2.10	
For General Portfolio see Gan				
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange London EC3. 071 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	818.50	852.60		
Managed Initial	440.70	463.90	+8.70	
-do- Acc	631.10	664.30	+12.80	
Equity Initial	656.70	691.30	+16.80	
-do- Acc	940.40	989.90	+24.40	
Fixed Int Initial	430.50	453.10	+1.30	
-do- Acc	616.40	648.80	+2.10	
Intl Initial	434.90	457.80	+6.50	
-do- Acc	622.70	655.50	+9.60	
Nth Amer Initial	170.50	179.50	+2.40	
-do- Acc	222.20	233.90	+3.30	
Pacific Initial	229.50	241.60	-0.10	
-do- Acc	296.30	311.90		
Property Initial	180.10	189.50		
-do- Acc	257.70	271.20		
Index-Lnkd Initl	154.90	163.00	+0.30	
-do- Acc	201.80	212.40	+0.50	
Deposit Initial	197.90	208.30	+0.20	
-do- Acc	283.40	298.30	+0.50	
Euro Initial	104.50	110.00	+1.50	
-do- Acc	125.90	132.50	+1.90	
HALIFAX LIFE LTD PO Box 255, York YO1 1YB 01904 611110				
Life Funds				
Foundation	24.29	25.51	-0.33	
Balanced	24.49	25.78	+0.44	
Opportunity	24.47	25.76	+0.52	
Deposit	23.77	25.02	+0.01	
Pension Funds				
Foundation	24.32	25.60	+0.39	
Balanced	24.58	25.88	+0.54	
Opportunity	24.56	25.86	+0.64	
Deposit	23.78	25.03	+0.01	
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 0277 280939				
Managed	161.00	169.40	+2.90	
-do- Pens	196.80	207.10	+3.60	

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity	163.50	172.10	+2.10	
-do- Pens	185.10	194.80	+3.20	
International	140.00	147.30	+4.50	
-do- Pens	152.30	160.30	+4.90	
Deposit	140.50	147.50	-0.10	
-do- Pens	166.50	175.20	+0.10	
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION 3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA 071 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	343.60	365.60	+5.30	
North America	344.90	367.00	+9.90	
Far East Fund	601.30	639.70	-7.00	
Global Managed	453.00	482.00	+6.10	
Deposit Fund	230.60	242.60	+0.20	
Prime Residential	136.60	143.80	...	
European Fund	257.60	274.10	+3.00	
Fixed Interest	61.30	65.30	+0.60	
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355				
Security Fund	489.30	517.80	+3.90	
British Fund	506.20	535.70	+6.30	
International	518.90	549.20	+8.60	
Dollar Fund	373.90	395.70	+10.10	
Capital Fund	461.00	487.90	+6.70	
Income Fund	665.50	704.30	+8.80	
Property Series A	459.70	486.50	...	4.50
Property Units	758.80	796.80		
Financial Fund	547.50	579.40	+11.60	
Managed Ser A	522.80	553.30	+6.30	
Managed Units	936.20	985.50	+11.10	
High Yield Fund	629.70	666.40	+8.00	
Money Series A	290.40	307.40	+0.30	
Money Units	385.00	405.30	+0.30	
Equity Fund	590.40	624.80	+8.20	
Fixed Interest	357.20	378.00	+1.10	
Indexed Secs	181.20	191.80	+0.50	
European Fund	698.20	739.90	-14.00	
Natural Res	277.60	293.80	-1.30	
Far East Fund	625.10	661.50	+7.90	
Smaller Cos	463.90	490.90	-0.20	
Special Sits	432.60	457.80	+7.50	
Man Currency	263.60	279.00	-1.40	
Japanese Tech	269.50	285.20	-1.40	
US Smaller Cos	240.20	254.20	+7.40	
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 3TF. 0727 48181				
Global Managed	545.70	574.40	+7.70	
Global Property	292.30	307.70	...	
Global Fixed Int	503.40	529.90	+£2.73	
Global Equity	582.50	613.20	+9.20	
Global Cash	214.90	226.20	+0.20	
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 0452 371371				
Property	490.70	516.50	-0.10	
Managed	402.00	423.10	+6.30	
American	398.00	418.90	+13.70	
UK Equity Fd	430.00	452.60	+6.70	
Japan	197.20	207.50	-1.70	
Index-Lkd	180.30	189.70	+0.90	
High Yield	829.60	873.20	+16.40	
Money	405.60	426.90	+0.30	
International	382.70	402.80	+7.80	
Henderson Active	206.60	217.40	+3.70	
Perpetual Active	313.10	329.50	+9.20	
Growth Acc	630.30	663.40	+10.20	
Gilt Edged	424.40	446.70	+2.90	
European	155.10	163.20	+2.90	
Far East	199.00	209.40	-10.60	
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 0273 824000				
B Soc Lnkd Init	134.90	142.10	-0.10	
-do- Acc	187.50	197.40	+0.10	
Brit Opps Int	137.50	144.80	+2.10	
-do- Acc	171.50	180.60	+2.70	
Cash Initial	167.30	176.20	+0.30	
-do- Acc	289.50	304.80	+0.30	
Equity Initial	630.30	663.50	+11.70	
-do- Acc	£10.90	£11.47	+20.10	
Fixed Initial	335.50	353.20	+2.30	
-do- Acc	580.40	611.00	+3.90	
Index-Lnkd Gilt	129.60	136.50	+0.60	
-do- Acc	191.40	201.50	+0.80	
Intl Initial	317.50	334.30	+4.60	
-do- Acc	540.70	569.20	+7.60	
Managed Initial	460.10	484.40	+7.40	
-do- Acc	796.30	837.90	+12.80	
Property Initial	218.70	230.30	...	
-do- Acc	378.40	398.40	+0.50	
LINCOLN NATIONAL 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 081 902 8876				
Equity Units	£1,128.22	...	+2.51	
Property Units	£127.25	...	...	
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£65.09	£68.51	+0.82	
2nd Equity Acc	615.70	648.20	+12.10	
2nd High Inc Acc	597.60	629.00	+10.50	
2nd Property Acc	248.10	261.20	...	
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	179.40	188.80	+0.90	
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	457.20	481.30	+5.80	
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	225.50	237.40	+3.00	
2nd Deposit Acc	284.70	299.70	+0.40	
2nd Gilt Acc	299.90	315.70	+1.20	
2nd Amer Acc	638.80	672.50	+24.60	
2nd Intl Mny Acc	265.00	278.90	+4.40	
2nd Index Acc	203.60	214.40	+0.50	
2nd Far East Acc	431.50	454.20	+6.80	
2nd Global Acc	163.50	172.10	+3.70	
2nd Euro Acc	160.10	168.50	-3.30	
2nd Japan Acc	187.90	197.80	-0.40	
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	161.30	169.80	+1.70	
2nd Cap Gth Acc	124.80	131.40	+1.40	
LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol BS1 6EA 0272 279179				
Equity	1892.90	...	-9.80	
Fixed Interest	1410.40	...	-0.50	
Property	1422.40	...	+0.40	
Deposit	1294.20	...	+0.20	
Mixed	1589.10	...	+5.30	
Indexed Stock	1308.40	...	-1.00	
International	1285.20	...	+3.30	
Equity A	1207.20	...	+2.30	

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Fixed Int A	182.10	...	-0.20	
Property A	185.70	...	-0.20	
Deposit A	172.90	...	-0.10	
Mixed A	193.60	...	-1.70	
Index Stock A	163.10	...	-0.70	
International A	178.20	...	-2.00	
Equity P	737.40	...	+9.70	
Fixed Int P	541.50	...	-0.50	
Property P	336.40	...	-0.50	
Deposit P	346.40	...	+0.30	
Mixed P	541.30	...	+5.90	
Index Stock P	238.60	...	-1.30	
International P	331.00	...	+4.50	
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282456				
Inv Trust Cap	558.10	...	-8.00	
-do- Acc	942.10	...	+14.30	
Property Cap	150.00	...	-0.10	
-do- Acc	243.40	...	...	
Fxd Interest Cap	189.50	...	+0.90	
-do- Acc	309.40	...	-1.80	
Equity Cap	301.50	...	+3.60	
-do- Acc	498.70	...	+6.20	
Internatl Cap	219.20	...	+4.60	
-do- Acc	359.20	...	+7.90	
Gtd Deposit Cap	165.00	...	...	
-do- Acc	265.90	...	+0.10	7.20
Flexible Cap	326.80	...	+4.10	
-do- Acc	539.10	...	+7.10	
Moneymaker Fd	416.60	...	+5.70	
Capital Growth	£16.17	...	+22.80	
M & G Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 0245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	398.40	418.40	+13.20	
Amer Rec Bond	468.90	492.50	+13.60	
Am Smlr Cos Bd	238.30	250.30	+11.10	
Australasia Bd	206.60	217.00	+1.70	
Commodity Bond	292.00	306.70	-1.70	
Deposit Bond Acc	363.60	381.90	+0.20	
Equity Bond Acc	£14.74	£15.48	+28.70	
European Bd Acc	374.30	393.10	+8.10	
Extra Yld Bd Acc	722.50	758.70	+23.50	
Far East Bd Acc	297.60	312.60	+9.80	
Gilt Bond Acc	432.10	453.90	+2.70	
Gold Bond Acc	140.90	148.00	-1.30	
High Yield Bond	326.10	342.50	+5.60	
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	203.40	213.70	-1.00	
International Bd	746.00	783.40	+16.40	
Japan Bond Acc	254.50	267.40	-4.70	
Japan Sm Cos Ac	252.50	265.30	-1.50	
Managed Bonds	853.60	896.30	+12.90	
Prop Bond Acc	329.40	346.00	+2.10	
Rec Bond Acc	739.10	776.20	+32.10	
MGM ASSURANCE MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 0903 204631				
UK Equity	215.80	227.20	+2.80	
UK Equity Acc	306.40	322.60	+4.30	
Special Sits	88.40	93.10	+0.70	
Special Sits Acc	125.50	132.20	+1.00	
North American	173.20	182.40	+4.40	
N American Acc	246.00	259.00	+6.30	
Pacific Basin	340.10	358.00	+4.60	
Pacific Basin Acc	482.90	508.40	+6.90	
Fixed Interest	274.40	288.90	+1.00	
Fixed Interest Acc	390.10	410.70	+1.60	
Property	177.90	187.30	+0.10	
Property Acc	252.90	266.30	+0.40	
Deposit	152.10	160.20	+0.20	
Deposit Acc	216.50	227.90	+0.10	
Managed	249.30	262.50	+3.40	
Managed Acc	326.30	343.50	+4.60	
MANULIFE GROUP St Georges Way, Stevenage, Herts 0438 356101				
Managed Fund	696.70	733.40	+9.60	
Property Fund	546.10	574.80	+0.50	
Equity Fund	888.10	934.80	+15.60	
Gilt Edged Fd	603.70	635.50	+3.60	
Deposit Fund	333.20	350.70	+0.30	
Investment Fd	380.40	399.50	+6.20	
International	527.30	555.10	+8.10	
MERCHANT INVESTORS St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead Bristol BS1 2NH 0272 266 366				
Property	446.00	469.40	+0.40	
UK Equity	343.60	361.60	+5.60	
Gilt Edged	559.10	588.50	+3.00	
Interest Fund	389.20	409.60	+0.30	
UK Fund	476.30	501.30	+5.20	
Intl Equity	586.80	617.60	+12.90	
Intl Managed	553.00	582.10	+10.90	
North American	213.90	225.10	+5.60	
Far East	439.30	462.40	+13.50	
Intl Currency	259.40	273.00	+0.40	
NPI 48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 071 623 4200				
Managed	470.30	495.00	+7.60	
UK Equity	586.40	617.20	+11.60	
Overseas Equity	461.30	485.50	+8.70	
American	394.00	414.70	+11.00	
Far East	520.60	548.00	+16.80	
Property	221.50	233.10	+0.10	
Fixed Interest	376.40	396.20	+2.10	
Indexed Gilt	226.60	238.50	+0.90	
Deposit	218.00	229.40	+0.10	
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds PO Box 140, Norwich NR3 1PP 0603 622200				
Managed Fund	£13.85	£14.58	+24.80	
Eqty Fund	£30.10	£31.69	+60.80	
Property Fd	578.30	608.70	+0.10	
Fixed Int Fd	580.10	610.60	+3.00	
Deposit Fund	351.40	369.90	+0.30	
Intl Fund	235.90	248.30	+4.70	
PEARL ASSURANCE The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 0733 470 470				
Inv Prop Dist	157.50	165.80	...	
Prop Acc (Gross)	331.80	349.30	-0.10	

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Inv Equity	£11.77	£12.39	-21.50	
Inv Managed	831.90	875.70	-13.50	
Ret Managed	931.90	951.00	-15.00	
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 0256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	279.90	295.30	+5.80	
Fxd Interest Acc	236.10	249.10	-0.30	
International Acc	244.60	258.10	+2.60	
Managed Acc	213.80	225.60	+2.80	
Property Acc	227.50	240.00	-0.10	
Money Acc	155.50	164.10	+0.40	
Spec Sits Acc	217.20	229.20	-1.40	
Japan Equity Acc	120.30	127.00	+0.40	
N Amer Acc	152.20	160.60	+3.60	
Pacific Acc	151.70	160.10	+4.30	
European Acc	186.30	196.60	+2.50	
PROVIDENT MUTUAL William Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 0LP 0438 739000				
Managed Ord	465.20	489.70	+8.50	
Managed Initial	311.80	328.20	+5.50	
Equity Ord	700.70	737.60	+14.40	
Equity Init	469.70	494.40	+9.30	
I-Linked Gilt Ord	196.40	206.70	-0.70	
I-Linked Gilt Init	137.50	144.70	+0.40	
Oseas Equity Ord	368.30	387.70	+8.30	
Oseas Equity Init	246.90	259.90	+5.50	
Property Ord	284.00	298.90	+0.20	
Property Init	190.30	200.30	...	
Fixed Int Ord	275.60	290.10	+1.90	
Fixed Int Init	184.70	194.40	+1.00	
Deposit Ord	207.60	218.50	+0.20	
Deposit Initial	139.10	146.40	...	
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 071 405 9222				
Managed	328.90	342.70	+6.60	
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 071 548 3278				
Managed Fund	775.10	815.90	+15.10	
Equity Fund	£14.39	£15.14	+32.40	
Intl Fund	606.60	638.80	+11.30	
Fixed Interest	554.60	583.80	-3.10	
Property Fund	483.20	508.70	...	
Cash Fund	366.90	386.30	+0.30	
Pacific Basin	340.00	357.90	+5.30	
N American Fd	247.20	260.30	+7.00	
Euro Fund	266.80	280.90	+5.40	
Balanced Fund	152.30	160.40	+2.80	
Strategic Fund	159.60	168.10	+2.90	
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 0733 390000				
Multi Grow (45)	£721.10	...	-8.80	
-do- Acc	431.40	454.10	-7.10	
Op Prop	510.50	537.40	+1.90	
Op Equity	920.20	968.70	+9.50	
Op High Yield	572.80	603.00	+3.10	
Op Managed	790.60	832.30	+6.50	
Op Deposit	395.30	416.20	-0.50	
Inc Gth	287.90	303.10	+5.70	
Japan Smlr	244.10	257.00	-4.40	
Managed Gth	247.50	260.60	+6.30	
Gilt	79.00	83.20	+0.60	
British	345.30	363.50	+7.60	
Global Bond	111.40	117.30	-2.50	
Global (35,34)	159.30	167.70	+2.20	
Gold Share	82.40	86.80	+0.80	
High Income	284.70	299.70	+2.90	
Income	408.60	430.20	+6.30	
Japan	412.10	433.80	-1.70	
UK Smlr Cos	326.00	343.20	+0.60	
Mngd Growth	436.70	459.70	+8.00	
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 051 238 3000				
Royal Shield Fd	948.40	£10.03	+14.70	
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	376.30	396.10	+5.80	
Equity Fund	527.50	555.20	+7.40	
Property Fund	338.70	356.50	+0.30	
International	468.60	493.20	+9.70	
Pacific Basin	259.00	272.60	+3.90	
United States	256.20	269.60	+8.50	
Gilt Fund	360.10	379.00	+1.80	
SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 0708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	755.00	799.00	+4.90	2.44
Deposit Fund (3)	373.90	395.70	+0.20	6.65
Gilt Fund	511.10	540.90	+2.80	8.35
Global Equity Fd	230.30	243.80	+3.00	
Property Fund (46)	111.90	118.50	+0.40	6.62
AC Bond Fund	144.90	153.40	+2.10	
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 041 248 2323				
Equity	573.90	604.20	+6.00	
Fixed Interest	365.30	384.60	+1.80	
Index-Linked	192.50	202.70	+0.90	
International	447.60	471.20	+6.70	
Property	301.20	317.10	+0.30	
Cash	231.60	243.80	+0.20	
Managed	458.80	483.00	+3.70	
Cap Gteed Bd	110.80	116.70	+1.70	
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 031 556 9101				
Cash	182.54	192.14	+0.15	
Index-Linked	158.00	166.30	+0.50	
Fixed Interest	171.70	180.70	+1.20	
Mixed	251.80	265.00	+3.40	
UK Equity	236.60	249.00	+3.50	
International	253.20	266.50	+2.80	
American	250.80	264.00	+3.70	
Japan	226.90	238.90	-0.50	
European	256.90	270.40	+3.30	
Pacific	339.80	357.70	+10.70	
Technology	357.60	376.50	+7.50	
Currency/Currency	227.10	239.10	+3.60	

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 031 225 2211				
Property	226.30	238.30	+0.20	
UK Equity	344.10	362.30	+7.20	
American	242.40	255.30	+4.40	
Pacific	330.70	348.20	+9.40	
European	474.00	499.10	+14.30	
International	298.80	314.60	+7.20	
Fixed Interest	232.50	244.90	+0.10	
Index Linked	190.90	201.00	+0.30	
Deposit	195.60	206.00	+0.10	
Managed	278.90	293.70	+5.20	
Worldwide	117.00	123.30	+3.10	
Pen Worldwide	123.90	130.50	+3.30	
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	£15.74	£16.23	...	
Safety Fund	230.40	242.60	+1.80	
Growth Fund	224.00	235.80	+3.10	
Opportunity Fd	219.20	230.80	+2.40	
Cash Fund	175.70	185.90	+1.10	
European Fund	337.60	355.40	+6.00	
Gilts & Fxd Int	197.30	207.70	+0.90	
Index-Linked Fd	177.50	186.90	+0.90	
International Fd	275.60	290.20	+4.50	
North American	230.40	242.60	+4.70	
Property Fund	130.10	137.00	-0.10	
UK Equity	238.80	251.40	+3.50	
UK Smaller	226.20	238.20	+0.60	
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031 556 9181				
Mixed	259.20	272.90	+3.20	
Equity	265.70	279.80	+2.40	
International	268.20	282.40	+4.10	
Property	234.70	247.20	+0.20	
Fixed Interest	218.70	230.30	+0.80	
Index Linked	175.80	185.10	-0.60	
Cash	188.00	198.00	+0.20	
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	774.60	824.10	+9.90	
Cash Fund	341.80	360.20	+0.30	
Property Fund	295.20	311.10	+0.30	
Equity Fund	890.80	947.70	+17.30	
Fxd Interest Fund	452.00	476.30	+1.80	
International	391.20	416.20	+6.40	
High Income	673.00	716.00	+5.90	
Far East	560.50	596.30	+11.10	
North American	530.70	564.60	+20.30	
Special Sits	617.20	656.60	+1.50	
Technology	586.40	623.90	+39.50	
Extra Income Fd	368.50	392.10	+3.40	
Gilt Fund	472.30	502.50	+2.20	
European	150.30	159.90	+3.10	
Adventurous Mg	212.80	224.10	+4.90	
Secure Mgd	146.10	154.00	+1.30	
Equity Inc Dist	111.80	117.90	+1.10	4.98
North American	107.30	113.10	+1.30	5.31
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 031 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	£9.18	£9.18	+15.90	
Inv Pol 2	£8.34	£8.78	+15.10	
Inv Pol 3	£7.96	£8.38	+14.50	
Inv Cash	£3.17	£3.33	+0.20	
Mixed Fund	437.20	460.30	+5.60	
Equity Fund	515.30	542.50	+5.30	
Property Fund	247.10	260.20	-0.30	
International Fd	475.40	500.50	+6.30	
Fixed Interest Fd	369.20	388.80	-2.60	
Indexed Stock Fd	193.20	203.50	-1.00	
Cash Fund	229.50	241.70	+0.20	
SKANDIA LIFE Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 0703 334411				
Managed Acc	369.90	389.30	+6.40	
Equity Acc	436.10	459.00	+6.80	
International Acc	332.00	349.40	+6.90	
Property	235.60	248.00	+0.20	
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 031 225 2552				
Cash	270.20	284.50	+0.20	
Equity	990.50	£10.42	+18.00	
European	172.10	181.20	+3.90	
Far East	162.90	171.50	+3.20	
Fixed Interest	390.30	410.90	+2.50	
Index Linked	204.30	215.10	+0.90	
International	603.90	635.70	+14.10	
Managed	692.60	729.10	+12.80	
Nth American	144.00	151.60	+5.10	
Property	364.20	383.40	+0.30	
Pensions				
Cash	421.60	443.80	+0.50	
Equity	£14.17	£14.91	-16.70	
European	204.60	215.40	+5.70	
Far East	129.90	136.80	+2.70	
Fixed Interest	539.90	568.40	+3.60	
Index Linked	284.20	299.20	-1.40	
International	843.70	888.20	+21.70	
Managed	969.00	£10.20	+20.10	
Nth American	176.70	186.10	+6.90	
Property	498.30	524.60	+0.60	
Stock Exchange	217.80	229.30	+4.70	
SUN ALLIANCE St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex 0403 232323				
Managed Fund	643.30	677.20	+9.00	
Equity Fund	837.20	881.30	+10.40	
Fixed Interest Fd	405.30	426.70	+2.80	
Index-Linked Fd	311.50	327.90	+1.50	
Property Fund	526.90	554.70	+0.50	
International Fd	614.70	647.10	+14.20	
N American Fd	230.90	243.10	+7.10	
Far East Fund	218.30	229.80	+5.60	
Deposit Fund	299.00	314.80	-0.30	
International Bd	£18.69	...	+3.06	
Worldwide Bond	152.50	160.60	+2.70	
European	164.80	173.50	+2.30	
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	636.20	669.80	+7.60	
Ebor Phoenix Eq	434.10	463.90	...	

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property Growth				
Property Fund	£608.50	...	+0.60	
-do- Acc	£567.40	...	+0.60	
Agricultural Fd	£828.50	...	+0.60	
-do- Acc	£795.90	...	+0.60	
Abbey Nat Fd	£469.40	...	+0.40	
Abbey Nat Acc	£475.00	...	+0.40	
Investment Fd	£342.30	...	+4.60	
Investment (A)	£328.50	...	+4.40	
Equity	£12.19	...	+14.40	
Equity Acc	£11.66	...	+13.70	
Money Fund	£477.00	...	+0.40	
-do- Acc	£455.90	...	+0.40	
Actuarial Fd	£565.80	...	+7.00	
Gilt-Edged Fd	£379.60	...	+2.40	
-do- Acc	£379.60	...	+2.40	
Retire Annuity	£12.64	...		
Immed Annuity	£307.50	...		
Bldg Soc Life	£227.90	...	+0.20	
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing: 0256 841414				
Growth Account	£13.87	...	...	
Managed Acc	£799.90	...	...	
Equity Account	£11.32	...	...	
Mngd Fund Acc	367.90	387.20		
Equity Fund Acc	494.70	520.80		
Prop Fund Acc	267.10	281.20		
Fixed Int Fd Acc	299.80	315.60		
Money Fund Acc	222.50	234.30		
Indx-Lnk Scs Ac	199.40	209.90		
Pers Pens Acct	£17.94			
Pens Mngd Acct	834.30	878.20		
Pens Guarantee	254.60	268.00		
Pens Equity	316.80	333.40		
Pens Property	304.70	320.70		
Pens Fixed Int	276.60	291.20		
Pens Intl	225.80	237.70		
Pens Money	237.80	250.40		
Pens Indx-Lnkd	189.90	199.90		
SUN LIFE UNIT St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0272 426911				
Managed Acc	872.70	918.70	+15.10	
Property Acc	312.60	329.10	+4.10	
Equity Acc	£14.12	£14.86	+23.70	
Fixed Int Acc	391.40	412.10	+2.00	
Cash Acc	311.50	327.90	+0.20	
Amer Equity Acc	360.70	379.70	+12.90	
Japan Acc	287.40	302.60	-1.60	
Pacific Acc	349.40	367.80	+16.20	
Far Eastern Acc	808.40	851.00	+26.00	
International Acc	573.40	603.60	+15.50	
Distribution Fund	271.60	285.90	+3.00	6.4
European	193.40	203.60	+4.20	
Deftrd Dist	165.20	173.90	+1.40	
TSB LIFE LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE 0264 345678				
Managed Fund	276.10	290.70	+3.90	
Property Fund	230.30	242.50	+0.10	
Fixed Interest Fd	220.50	232.20	+1.50	
Money Fund	201.60	212.30	+0.10	
Equity Fund	361.50	380.60	+5.40	
TARGET LIFE The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296 394000				
Deposit	250.90	264.20	+0.10	
Financial Ser 1	44.80	48.10	+1.40	
Fixed Interest	321.00	338.00	+1.50	
Gold	73.30	77.20	-0.10	
Managed	591.50	622.70	+6.80	
Mngd Growth	188.00	198.00	+3.30	
Mngd Opp	198.20	208.70	+3.10	
Property	332.20	349.60	...	
Residential Prop	101.70	107.10	...	
TSB American	189.30	199.40	+6.60	
TSB Brit Gwth	846.80	890.90	+16.40	
TSB European	258.50	272.20	+4.70	
TSB Income	371.00	390.70	+6.00	
TSB Intl	398.70	419.80	+8.50	
TSB Intl Inc	277.10	291.80	+4.30	
TSB Pacific	388.00	408.50	+7.30	
TSB Prem Inc	246.40	257.50	+2.60	
WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 0952 292929				
Managed Bond	666.40	702.20	+10.70	
Money Fund	319.90	336.70	+0.20	
Equity Fund	582.40	613.30	+9.80	
Fixed Interest	273.00	287.70	+1.10	
Property Fund	362.40	381.50	...	
Gresham Framlington				
American & Gnrl	576.70	607.70	+22.70	
Income	722.20	761.00	+7.80	
International Gth	611.70	644.60	+7.90	
Capital Fund	591.80	623.60	-1.40	
Recovery Fund	627.30	660.90	+7.20	
Japan & General	253.80	267.20	-0.90	
Formerly AEtna				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	18.19	19.15	+0.01	
Bear	19.01	20.01	+0.27	
Owl	19.86	20.91	+0.15	
Bull	17.29	18.20	+0.18	
Stag	18.14	19.09	+0.54	
Gilt Edged	18.28	19.24	+0.00	
Deposit	15.92	16.76	+0.01	
Pensions				
Squirrel	24.75	26.05	+0.02	
Bear	26.21	27.59	+0.59	
Owl	26.58	27.98	+0.21	
Bull	22.08	23.24	+0.23	
Stag	22.13	23.29	+0.67	
Gilt Edged	23.04	24.25	+0.09	
Deposit	20.60	21.68	+0.02	
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	360.55	...	+5.87	
1982 Series				
UK Equity	325.83	342.98	+3.65	
N Amer Equity	274.04	288.46	+9.09	
Far East Equity	358.58	377.45	+13.50	
Fixed	298.11	303.27	+1.04	
Cash Deposit	206.41	217.27	+0.13	
Property	153.99	162.09	+1.31	
Special Opp	333.08	350.61	+5.52	
Managed	296.34	311.94	+3.26	
Index-Linked Fd	185.96	195.77	+0.06	

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Exposed to new tax charge on estate-planning arrangements

From Mr C. Scott-Hopkins

Sir, It was announced last week by the Government that charities would escape controversial new rules to tax interest-free loans. However, this still leaves individuals exposed to an entirely new tax charge on estate-planning arrangements popular in recent years because of their flexibility. With effect from the next tax year, 1995-96, under the guise of "simplification" and "tax neutrality" the Inland Revenue intends to tax an interest-free loan as if it were income bearing.

Ironically, this is nothing to do with Inheritance Tax. For someone who made a £50,000 interest-free loan to their children under trust this will mean payment of £1,000 at 25 per cent tax, or £1,600 at 40 per cent in 1995-96 at the "official rate" of 8 per cent, compared with no tax under the current rules.

Many of these plans involved insurance bonds where the underlying income is already taxed by the insurance company so, in effect, we have the concept of "double taxation". In most cases, the loan is repaid to the settlor at the rate of 5 per cent each year and this new measure will result in an equivalent "tax rate" of 40 per cent to the 25 per cent taxpayer and 64 per cent to the 40 per cent taxpayer. It is now clear that the Revenue wants to tax interest-free loans where trusts are involved. I suggest the correct way of doing so is to apply the proposed new legislation to all loans set up on and after the November 30 Budget day. To batter something set up in good faith under the law smacks of retrospection. In some cases, these plans date back to the Capital Transfer Tax regime. It is estimated that "simplification" will affect some £500 million of outstanding loans with £10 million of additional tax starting next year.

I urge every victim of this unprecedented Revenue attack to write to their MP. Labour did not act with retrospective effect when it imposed a tax charge on taking withdrawals above a certain level from an insurance bond in both 1968 and 1975. One would expect the Conservatives to act honourably when this clause is debated at the committee stage. After all, they say they are the party of low taxation.

C. SCOTT-HOPKINS,
Towry Law Financial Planning Limited,
Southern Division,
Towry Law House,
57 High Street,
Windsor, Berkshire.

Bank 'identity cards'

From Mrs Dorothy Box

Sir, Like J. Fox (Weekend Money Letters, February 4) and others, I have neither driving licence, passport nor other "open sesame" documents with which to prove my identity should I wish to open a new bank account. However, last October I shuffled some money from one type of savings to another. At Christmas, I received two cards from my bank. I shall simply present these as proof of my standing.

Yours faithfully,
DOROTHY BOX,
37 Mayfield Park,
Fishponds, Bristol.

Game of the name

From Mr Alan Paterson

Sir, Further to recent correspondence re the Woolwich, after taking my passport, National Insurance card, birth certificate and various forms of identification to open a new account at the Woolwich, it was to my surprise that the cashier opened an account for a Mr Alan Patterson who hadn't given her any identification. When I pointed this out to her, she said that she would change it the next day. However, a few days ago, Mr Alan Patterson received his first statement for his new Woolwich account.

So, opening an account is possible, but what is the point in being asked for all this identification if your name can't even be spelt correctly?

Yours faithfully,
ALAN PATERSON,
63 Brenton Road,
Penn,
Wolverhampton.

Mortgage borrowers are being offered loyalty incentives, **Karen Murray** says

Lenders turn on charm

The becalmed house market is changing the attitude of banks and building societies towards their existing borrowers. Once the Cindererellas of the customer list, they are now the subject of a charm offensive.

In the past, lenders devised their best deals to entice new borrowers. But with new business hard to come by and remortgaging fast becoming the liveliest sector of the home loans market (it now accounts for more than three quarters of total mortgage sales), lenders have had a change of heart.

Many are realising that they must offer incentives to existing borrowers, or risk losing them to rivals waiting with offers such as cashbacks and large discounts. The trend implies that lenders are finally acknowledging the true worth of customers who pay on time and are not in arrears.

Particular attention is being focused on borrowers coming to the end of fixed-rate or discounted deals. At the end of the three-year or five-year period, borrowers are usually free to shop around for another low-priced mortgage. Here, we list the existing borrower offers announced to date. Other lenders must follow, or risk further defections to rivals. Existing borrowers at the Woolwich who are moving house and who agree to have their next mortgage with the society, can get a discount of 4.2 per cent for a year if they have a deposit of less than 20 per cent. For those with a deposit of more than 20 per cent, the reduction rises to 4.7 per cent. Loyalty bonuses are also available from the National Westminster, which offers a £400 cashback for existing customers who go to the bank for their next loan.

The Halifax offers a £500 cashback. Customers who stay loyal to the Midland when they move, benefit from a discount of 1 per cent for 12 months. Skipton customers who stay put get a 0.1 per cent discount if they pay by direct debit, bringing the current variable rate down to 8.39 per cent. Those who are moving house and have been in continuous employment for a year can get a special status discount of 0.15 per cent, in addition to any other discounts.

The society will also be more flexible on income ratios for those who take out a new mortgage. Other lures include £200 towards the valuation fee.

The Portman has introduced several schemes for existing borrowers, including premium rate sickness, accident and unemployment cover and low-rate personal loans. Mortgage holders can borrow between £2,000 and £15,000 over a five-year term at 9.9 per cent. Under the Portman's negative equity scheme, it will lend up to 100 per cent of the purchase price plus negative equity of £25,000. This is at the higher rate of 9.45 per cent for three years, one per centage point above its normal rate.

The society has a loyalty scheme for those who have saved for a minimum of six months. If they want a mortgage, they are offered a discount of 1.25 per cent for two years in addition to legal fees up to £400 and a free valuation.



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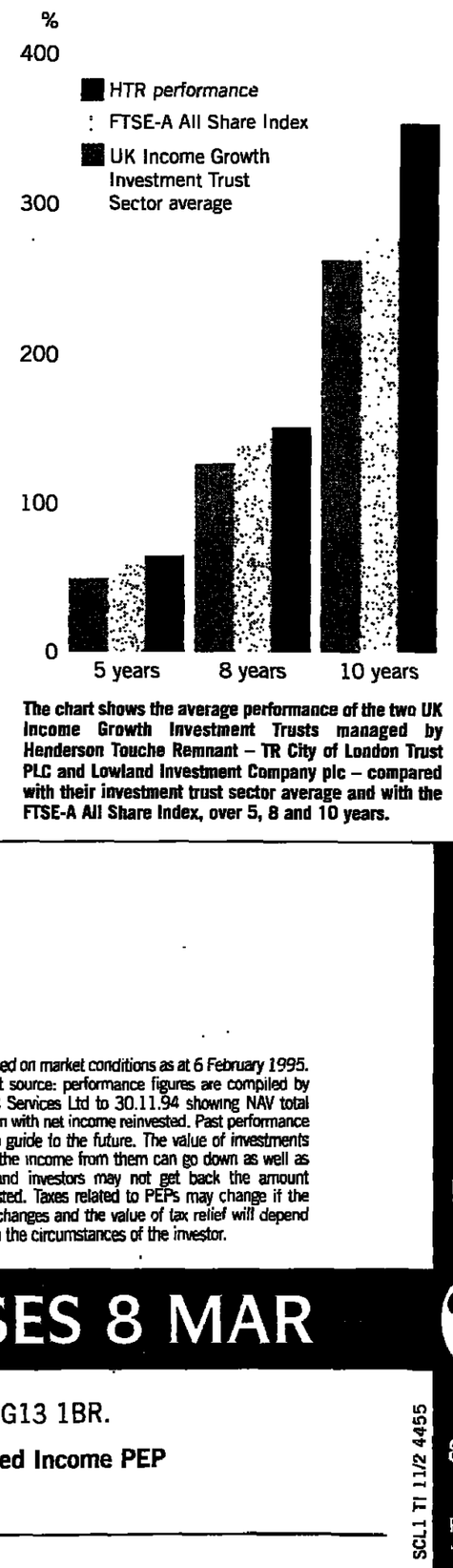
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Investors beat cautious path to South Africa

Sharon Colback says many projects could absorb and repay investment

ADRIAN BROOKS



Infrastructure schemes should prove attractive to investors

In April, South Africans will review the most momentous year in their 300-year history when they celebrate the first anniversary of the peaceful transition to a government of national unity.

South Africa's first democratic elections were largely the result of world pressure in the form of economic sanctions and social, cultural and sporting isolation.

Now that the country is again a welcome member of the world community, institutional investors are being slow to follow punishment with reward and inject the billions in foreign currency needed for continued peace and economic survival.

The financial rand is putting a brake on investment. Introduced in 1985, it is a pool of rands that belongs to non-residents who trade it between themselves without affecting South Africa's foreign currency reserves. It trades at a discount to the commercial rand and the discrepancy between the two acts as a barometer to foreign perceptions of South Africa's political and economic health. For investors, a two-tier system indicates a weak economy with insufficient stability to depend on a single currency.

Before the elections, the gap between the two rands was as much as 40 per cent. Since then, it has narrowed to 11.2 per cent after an unfounded rumour last week that it was about to be scrapped. Chris Liebenberg, the Finance Minister, has hinted that it will be abolished when the gap has narrowed to 10 per cent.

Arnold Shapiro, senior portfolio manager with Old Mutual, one of South Africa's largest financial institutions, is optimistic about the country's growth potential. "The South African economy is still coming off a very low base. GDP grew by around two per cent in 1994, and it is expected to do even better in 1995.

"Before the elections, the international debt embargo stopped the Government borrowing to finance debt. We had to run a current account surplus. Most emerging market countries are net borrowers of capital. We were a net exporter of capital. The economic straitjacket has been removed since last April and there is every prospect that the economy will grow strongly."

Certainly, there are many projects that could absorb and repay investment. The Government's Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP), once it receives the finance it needs to get into its stride, has ambitious aims to bridge the educational and material gap between the white and black populations. The main RDP thrust, and the one that will be most attractive to investors, is in the provision of basic infrastructure. Rapidly growing squatter camps encircle every town and occupy any available land in city centres.

One of President Mandela's election promises was to build a million lower-income housing units within five years. Although few believe the target can be achieved, he needs to make a serious show if he is to retain his loyal, and, at present patient, following.

The Johannesburg All-Share Index mirrored the relief at the election, rising by about 20 per cent between January and the end of last year. This was not enough to attract large numbers of institutional investors, but there is good reason to suppose they will soon feel the need to invest.

From April, two influential emerging market indices will include South Africa for the first time. The International Finance Corporation has given the country a 13 per cent weighting and Morgan Stanley Capital Index has given 9 per cent. Once the market recovers from its recent fall, pension and insurance fund trustees will want to see it in their portfolios. Sheer weight of foreign institutional money is expected to push the market up later in the year.

After such a strong surge last year, the market dropped back heavily last month, falling 16.1 per cent. This was partly because of overheating and partly a knock-on effect from Mexico's crisis.

The three South African funds launched in the UK last year rewarded investors handsomely before the market fell. Old Mutual launched its £54.1 million investment trust, Old Mutual South Africa, (OMSA) on July 8, 1994. Between the launch and the trust's last published figures on November 30, the net asset value of OMSA rose 15.4 per cent. The All-Share index rose 6.49 per cent.

The trust invests in industrial shares and Mr Shapiro says that, when gold and commodities are having a strong run, OMSA may lag behind those tilted towards resources. Although optimistic gold analysts hope that the gold price will average $400, the 11.5 per cent rise on last year's prices will be offset by a similar rise in costs. At best, gold shares can be expected to mark time.

Credit Suisse South Africa Fund, launched on July 15, 1994, and now valued at about £4 million, rose by 19.01 per cent on an offer-to-offer basis up to December 30, 1994. The All-Share index rose by 15.1 per cent in sterling terms during the same period. Against the market drop of 16.1 per cent in January, the fund fell 12.8 per cent, but it is still up 3.9 per cent since its launch. Save & Prosper Southern Africa Fund, valued on January 31 at £7.8 million, has risen 3.34 per cent since its launch on October 1 last year. Until the market fell, it had risen by over 13 per cent.

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BANKS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
528	397½	Abbey Nat	440	+ 3	4.4	14.8
314	293	Abbey Intn	310		4.7	10.4
279½	171	Am New Z	274		2.5	16.7
3380	2460½	Bank Americ	2667½	– 25	5.5	7.5
247	172½	Bank Scotland	239	+ 5	3.2	11.9
540	467	Barclays	512	+ 9	3.4	15.0
319	246	Bk of Ireland	312	– 7	4.6	9.0
2812½	2362½	Citicorp	2775	– 31½		
265½	203	Close Bros	252		5.4	11.8
21560½	21215½	Commercial	21400½	+231½	5.0	
12365½	9695½	Den Nor Kom Y	11100	+ 21½	9.5	
23444½	23270½	Deutsche Bk	23000½	– 212½	2.3	
1315½	715½	Espirito Santo	721½	– 50	5.3	3.5
90	57	First Nat Finl	66		3.0	
1546½	1152½	Fuji Bank Y	1370½	+ 50	2.8	43.4
473	388	Hambros	348		7.5	14.6
1113	988	HSBC	1075		4.5	9.8
1443	1053	HSBC HK	1275	– 1½	4.5	9.8
1063	953	Joseph (L)	1000		4.5	9.7
883	624	Kleinwort Ben	796		5.6	11.4
680	519	Lloyds	667½	+ 10	5.6	11.1
6500½	472	Nat Aust Bk	496	+ 1	5.9	15.9
3860	251	Nat Westm	366	+ 10	4.5	9.9
3000	2100	Ottoman Bank	2150		6.8	
78	52	Rea Bros	74		3.9	17.8
1556	1373½	Rob Fle Scott	1418	+ 16	4.1	12.0
1574	1050	Schroders	1365	+ 8	3.3	14.7
1458½	1043	Schroders n/v			3.3	14.7
114	75	Singer & Fried	85		4.6	10.9
3930½	223	Standard Chart	2700	+ 2	4.6	9.3
251	197	TSB	220	+ 1	4.5	
1612	569	Warburg Sec	1000	+ 24	3.8	13.2
2105	8612½	Wells Fargo	9975	+ 25		
288	194	Westpac	223	+ 1½	5.6	
390	283	Wintrust	288		5.9	15.0

BREWERIES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1625	150	Allied Lndns	153			
818	485	Bass	574	+ 6	5.0	13.0
1967	1551	Bellington	1745		4.2	13.2
181	168	Burgmast Brwr	168		5.1	20.4
69	48½	Fosters Brewing	56		3.1	13.7
488	399	Gale Sn 'A'	399	– 12	2.8	14.0
511	399	Greenalls Sgrt	475	– 2	4.0	13.5
584	452	Greene King	475	– 4	4.0	13.6
267	230	Hardy Hansnt	258		4.0	12.7
178	135	Heineken	156		3.8	
3273	2575	Ind Brew	3388	– 2	1.8	18.6
248	185	Mansfield	227	– 2	3.5	14.5
314	256	Mccon Thmp	278		4.7	14.6
545	440	Morland	446	– 2	3.0	13.5
10½	6½	Paramount	7		3.6	16.5
359	209	Regent Inns	316		2.1	24.2
16884	1000	SA Breweries	1400		3.6	24.2
581	477	Scot & Newc	4956½	– 2½	4.4	14.3
306	214	Vaux Group	214		5.8	12.1
491	3545	Wolverhampton JD	465	+ 1	1.8	25.5
617	494	Whitbread	548	+ 2	4.5	14.4
588	488	Wolverhmpton D	488		3.6	12.9
208	148	Yates Brwry	193		2.5	15.2
535	450	Young 'A'	468	+ 2	4.1	19.5

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
205	130	Abbeyt	130		5.0	9.5
200	143	Aber	154		4.5	14.4
164	61	Amec	67		5.6	36.7
47	47	Anderson Sykes	156	+ 1		
462	333	Ansbacher	450		1.5	26.7
191	97½	Avonside	98		5.6	11.6
41	26	Bailey (Benj) Cm	36		2.5	21.4
88	19½	Barcrest	45			
1268	1000	Barrat Dev	1178	+ 4	4.3	12.7
188	122	Bilcon Holmes	172	+ 4	5.0	10.6
304	179	Bellway	192	+ 6	4.8	11.4
59	31	Bellwinch	37			32.5
573	338	Berkeley Sgr	538	– 1	2.8	10.2
215	118	Bet Bros	178		3.2	5.5
355	210	Bett (Hdngs)	325		3.7	11.1
114	35	Blanchm Hse	113	+ 2	1.7	
336	130	Br Bldg & Eng	130	+ 5	7.7	6.1
197½	105	Bryant	115	+ 3	5.6	10.8
145½	98	CALA	143	+ 3	3.4	14.2
82	31	Carroll & Ass	52			
62	44	Clarke T	52		3.0	44.1
42	17½	Costain	22½	+		
186	109	Countryside	181		5.4	12.4
139	73	Crest Nicholson	89	+ 1	2.2	
91	51	Cuscins	71		4.7	11.9
38	17	Edmund Hdgs	18		2.1	
473	236	Eve Group	243		5.7	9.9
69	24	Gahlord	27		4.6	
112	85	Gibbs & Dandy	89		2.2	
1028	823	Glenrose (M/J)	1000		2.1	14.8
86	71	Green (Evan)	84		5.3	25.9
197	121	Hawtock Exm	197		1.5	17.9
189	138	Hawtn-Stant	1514		2.5	17.4
144	84	Higgs & Hill	84		3.7	
232	178	Holland Hdgs	178		5.3	17.7
9	6	Jarvis	9			
163	103	Keller	104		4.8	12.1
428	199	Laing	199	– 1	5.7	18.0
1195	920	Laing L/V Cv Pf	920		8.7	
145	115	Lilley (M)	115		2.7	5.8
173	48	Lovell (Y/J)	48		2.7	
253	196	Mainmarx (J)	207		3.3	12.4
351	154	McAlpine (A)	164	+ 1	5.8	24.0
78	59½	McDermy & S	64			10.0
84	54	Mowlem (John)	54	– 1	0.2	
185	94	Morrison (J)	97		2.5	
379	170	Persimmon	178	+ 9	8.5	13.3
2466	1450	Pochins	2106		3.8	21.0
186	116	Prowting	116		3.9	17.7
115	76	Ransm Hd	90½		7.4	10.5
49	45	Secom Rstns	46			46.0
133	90	Redrow	97		3.5	9.6
67	56	Scott-Bre	56		1.7	25.6
288	230	Shanly Hdgsn	280		7.8	18.3
67	50	Simon Eng	67	+ 1	2.7	14.2
245	195	Smart (A	205		2.5	21.5
290	155½	Spandex	263		3.2	28.6
257	151	Tay Homes	178	+ 3	4.8	12.9
215	114½	Taylor Woodrw	130	+ 1	1.7	31.8
783	523	Tilbury Douglas	750		2.7	41.1
63	36	Tons Hmyt	60		2.9	21.0
48½	19	Try Group	19		3.3	
128	90	Wilkinsnart	107	+ 1	4.4	18.2
178	118	Wilsonbrns	118	+ 2	5.5	11.9
74	48	Wimpey	54	+ 1	3.7	
235½	124	Westbury	134	– 1	5.4	11.3
7½	3½	Wiggins	4½			
258	139	Wilson (C)	141	+ 1	3.7	11.7
577	311	Wilson Bowdn	328	+ 1	3.7	13.5
249	113	Wimpey G	129	+ 5	5.1	19.3

BUILDING MATERIALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
27	12	Alibrighton	14		4.5	29.8
341	282	Alumasc	328		3.1	
65½	49½	Ameswy Grt	51		3.1	26.2
353	274	BPB Ind	320	– 1	3.3	16.4
142	93	Bpgorge Brkt	123		3.2	12.7
98	36	Bunton	70		7.5	
391	262	Blue Circle	289	+ 5	4.9	28.5
117	72	Brendon PLC	74		7.8	21.2
154	128	Br Dredging	134	– 1	5.2	16.1
280	221	BRH	272	– 1	2.6	18.3
78	52	Cambrd Rly	67	+ 3		4.9
276	198	Cape	266		6.5	13.3
254	204	Caradon	255	+ 2	4.3	16.9
215½	114	Caradon pf	156½	+ 1	7.2	
62	46	Chadbrn Gp	54		4.1	10.9
114	66	Dyson (A)Ht	107		4.1	8.6
97	64	Evans Hlfrd	64		6.5	
13½	4½	Elliott Blands	12			
350	273	Ennth	305		3.5	16.7
218	170	Ennth	176	+ 3	3.2	34.9
399	312	Hallcrest Grt	317	+ 7	3.0	14.5
511	282	Hepworth	298	+ 8	2.3	17.0
48	48	Hewden	48		2.3	14.3
1000	800	Hillsdown USA	865		2.7	8.4
673	557	Hollond Wtn	557		5.4	14.9
97	67	Ibstock	80		1.5	
294	149	Ibstock	268		2.1	22.3
270	90	Jewsbolt	90		5.2	10.3
1780	1335	Marley Ind	1530	– 1	2.8	10.2
184	135	Marshalls	151	+ 1	4.3	26.4
1000	497	Ennisskillen	497		3.0	15.1
369	327	Meyer Int	327		4.5	12.9
143	98	Ocelle	126		2.6	19.4
68½	35½	Ennc Colour	116		5.8	10.9
149	110	Gibbons'd	116		7.8	11.5
223	108	Hickson	218	+ 3½	2.5	
2158½	2108½	Hoechst	2108		2.6	17.0
1570	1537½	Hoffnby Chem	1548	– 5	4.6	60.4
288	227	ICI	263		6.2	10.0
691½	97½	Kalon	104	+ 1½	6.3	15.8
65	640	Lagnic	663	+ 1	0.8	
95	45	MFM	87		4.1	14.9
405	288	Marston	397		6.7	12.6
157	100	McLeod Russel	115	– 2	7.3	8.9
138	95	Mchanical	405½		4.4	20.7
577½	354½	Meredithon	300		3.8	15.9
345	265	Pioneer	265	+ 5	3.8	14.7
273	186	Scapa	186		3.1	12.9
88	57	Sidcatte Speak	767½	– 3	0.8	14.7
852½	656	Tarmac Chem	340		6.3	18.9
499	325	Wagon Stamp'd	187		3.5	18.1
1000	750	Wellington Hldg	773		3.9	15.6
370	270	Wesselton R	351		3.4	19.7
483	345	Yorks Chem	359		3.3	
338	257	Yule Catto				

CHEMICALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1556½	115	Allied Colloids	117	+ 1	2.6	19.5
790	705	Amber Ind	780		3.4	15.5
2140½	2100½	BASF DM	2139½	– 21½	3.4	
767	627	BOC	736	– 6	4.3	17.4
305½	248	BTP	249	– 6	5.5	14.1
2160½	2129½	Bayer DM50	2152½	+ 16½	3.0	
772	97	Biagden	111		1.7	51.9
121	98	Brent Chems	106	– 2	4.7	
309	215	Br Vita	218		4.3	16.2
46	18	Cambridge Iso	38	+ 1		
198	153	Cannng (W)	191	– 1	4.9	26.4
498	407	Elementis plc	451		4.3	16.4
369	327	Croda	328		3.0	15.1
143	95	Dodlie	126		4.5	12.9
68½	35½	Enro Colour	67		2.6	19.4
144	110	Gibbons'd	116		5.8	10.9
223	108	Hickson	218	+ 3½	2.5	
2158½	2108½	Hoechst	2108		2.6	17.0
1570	1537½	Hoffnby Chem	1548	– 5	4.6	60.4
288	227	ICI	263		6.2	10.0
691½	97½	Kalon	104	+ 1½	6.3	15.8
65	640	Lagnic	663	+ 1	0.8	
95	45	MFM	87		4.1	14.9
405	288	Marston	397		6.7	12.6
157	100	McLeod Russel	115	– 2	7.3	8.9
138	95	Mchanical	405½		4.4	20.7
577½	354½	Meredithon	300		3.8	15.9
345	265	Pioneer	265	+ 5	3.8	14.7
273	186	Scapa	186		3.1	12.9
88	57	Sidcatte Speak	767½	– 3	0.8	14.7
852½	656	Tarmac Chem	340		6.3	18.9
499	325	Wagon Stamp'd	187		3.5	18.1
1000	750	Wellington Hldg	773		3.9	15.6
370	270	Wesselton R	351		3.4	19.7
483	345	Yorks Chem	359		3.3	
338	257	Yule Catto				

BUSINESS SERVICES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3½	1½	Anglo Ltd	1½			
110	66	Aqo Holo	70		6.8	
165	107	Abwoods	114			
11	6½	Bailey (Gth)	7	+		6.9
46	30	Black Arrow	39		9.0	70.9
124	70	C Bleadsdock	78			15.0
13	5½	Chemlex	5½			10.0
10½	4	Chemrent	6	–	2.1	18.8
157	109	Cascal	143	– 2	7.0	9.6
50	28	Fenlor	227	+ 1	1.1	19.4
282	234	Hostdcrft	263	– 2	6.0	15.2
245	154	Leigh	164		3.4	14.7
314	214	Micro Sgrt	227		2.6	22.0
310	207	Penn-Mrt	207		4.9	
80	36	Plant & Gen	55			
12½	2½	Porth Group	4½			
51½	5½	Rollins	8		3.2	
218	78	Shanks & McEwan	82		5.2	13.2
244	170	Staffs (Wm)	171			
700	333	Waste Mgt Int	332	– 1		

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
202	148	Advest	153	+ 1	6.1	15.6
380	199½	Amalgamate	308	– 2	1.4	24.9
92	47	Ammon	47		4.6	9.8
997	773½	Bridon Hld	858	+ 2	2.4	18.0
401	273	BTR	358		2.9	21.4
570	372	BMT	451	+ 2	5.6	12.1
270½	126½	Berisford Intl'V	235		0.8	62.2
91	49	Blckr (J)	83		4.7	14.6
97½	44	Blenny Iw	47½		4.3	7.8
836	536½	Charts	786	+ 1	3.8	22.5
265	215	Coalcan	229½		1.4	
302	217½	Hanson	245½	+ ½	5.1	15.9
233	156	Harrisn Crosfld	149	– 2	3.4	27.1
2500	2000	Hmsly Wtsng	2500½	+ ½	2.8	16.0
710	409½	Jardine Matth	525½	+ 1½	2.8	17.3
36	27½	Jardine (I)	29		4.3	15.9
175½	124½	Lonrho†	153		3.7	26.9
44	16	Porter Chadbn	40½	+		
595½	462	Powell Duffryn	482	+ 2	5.7	13.1
164	118½	Rmpa	127	– 1	7.4	14.4
488	337	Rdmonds	472	+ 4	5.1	22.9
34½	9½	Saliny	14			5.4
1954	105	Sime Darby	148	– 1	3.1	17.8
267	154	Slough Est	169		4.7	52.1
229	148	Slter	150½	– 1	7.7	14.5
268	228	TT Group	235	– 1	2.5	
283	202	Tomkinsn	236½	+ ½	4.1	15.1
124	82½	Tstagar Hl	87		5.7	
440	265	Unilock	269		3.7	
324	240½	Wassll	269	– 1	1.7	23.1
13½	9½	Whitney	10		2.5	15.6
414½	309	Williams Hldg	337	– 1	4.9	20.8

ELECTRICITY

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
894½	810½	East Midlands	770	+ 8	4.5	32.4
866	686	Eastern Elect	782	+ 12	4.4	15.5
776	534	London Elec	737	+ 12	4.2	11.2
885	655	Manweb	842	+ 12	4.2	11.7
1045½	867	Midlands Elect	1000	+ 10	4.3	11.7
1000	557	Nthrn Electric	1000	+ 2	4.3	11.7
1000	557	Norweb	894	+ 10	3.5	11.0
1000	557	Powergen	1000	– 2	3.7	11.0
1000	557	Scttsh-Elect	1000	– 2½	4.5	10.7
1000	557	Scottish Power	1000	+ 8	3.5	11.0
1000	557	Seaboard	1000	+ 8	4.5	11.0
1000	557	Sth Wales†	1000	+ 8	3.8	10.9
1000	557	Sth Western	1000	+ 17	3.8	10.9
1000	557	Southern Elect	1000	+ 8	4.2	14.0
1000	557	Yorkshire Elect	1000	+ 2	4.2	14.0

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
186	69	Anson Chmy	84			
138	47½	APV	88½	+ 3	1.3	19.5
216	145½	ASW	165	– 3	3.8	
129	37½	Aero Hamble	34		13.7	3.4
21½	14	Aerospace Eng	17		5.6	
79	27½	Alvis†	47		2.7	
178	138	Ash & Lacy	158		5.8	14.3
553	460	Atlas Elect	530		5.6	18.4
135	90	Avrshire Metal	120		1.6	14.7
53	40½	Bibcock	51			
137	91	BMI	131		6.4	20.1
91	64	Barnes (Charles)	88	+ 2	2.8	20.5
86	23	Beresford	36			
228	110	Bilton (A)	117		5.7	7.3
265	215	Bodycote	225		2.1	22.2
81	43	Booth Hse	61			
20	13½	Bozzacyr	14		4.7	13.2
171	120	Bridon	156		3.2	21.9
577½	399½	Br Aerospace	477	+ 1	2.1	
172½	121½	Br Steel	155	+ 1	2.9	12.7
125	85½	Bromsgrove Ind†	98		6.3	15.1
10½	5½	Brooks Tool	12½		1.0	
51	34½	Brunel	46			
186	135	Bullough†	150	– 1	5.0	
88	55	Burndtnd	73		3.1	32.2
29	14	C1 Group	23		2.2	
283	247	Cardo Engt	247		3.0	15.7
198	110	Chrtrhse	110	– 2	2.3	19.2
1560	1150	Chemring	1350		3.7	9.5
208	150	Chemrite Hld	150		4.0	14.5
369	272	Chesnngt	287	+ 1	3.2	15.3
2660	178	Clyde Blowers	179		3.1	
1000	410	Cobham	307	+ 1	3.2	15.3
1000	408	Colvert (M)	500		0.8	
263	178	Concentric	251		3.2	14.5
310	231	Cookson	231		4.1	10.9
310	231	David Brown	215	– 1	3.8	15.2
462	343	Dbs	348		5.6	13.0
101	69	Elliott (B)	97		3.7	14.1
118	80	Expamet	80		3.8	16.7
212	141½	FKI	144		3.5	16.2
146	109	Fyffes	135		1.4	18.2
45	16	Ferrum	16			
124	91	Barton Eng	91		4.8	
311	265	Glynwed	311		4.7	18.2
65	10	Graseley	10		3.0	17.2
229	148	Guest	150		7.7	14.5
268	228	Hardinge	235	– 1	2.5	
283	202	Headlam†	236½	+ ½	4.1	15.1
124	82½	Isotagar Hl	87		5.7	
440	265	Unilock	269	– 1	1.7	23.1
324	240½	Wassll	269	– 1	1.7	23.1
13½	9½	Whitney	10		2.5	15.6
414½	309	Williams Hldg	337	– 1	4.9	20.8

ENGINEERING

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
186	119	AMH	180		3.1	
138	47½	APV	88½	+ 3	1.3	19.5
216	145½	ASW	165	– 3	3.8	
129	37½	Aero Hamble	34		13.7	3.4
21½	14	Aerospace Eng	17		5.6	
79	27½	Alvis†	47		2.7	
178	138	Ash & Lacy	158		5.8	14.3
553	460	Atlas Elect	530		5.6	18.4
135	90	Avrshire Metal	120		1.6	14.7
53	40½	Bibcock	51			
137	91	BMI	131		6.4	20.1
91	64	Barnes (Charles)	88	+ 2	2.8	20.5
86	23	Beresford	36			
228	110	Bilton (A)	117		5.7	7.3
265	215	Bodycote	225		2.1	22.2
81	43	Booth Hse	61			
20	13½	Bozzacyr	14		4.7	13.2
171	120	Bridon	156		3.2	21.9
577½	399½	Br Aerospace	477	+ 1	2.1	
172½	121½	Br Steel	155	+ 1	2.9	12.7
125	85½	Bromsgrove Ind†	98		6.3	15.1
10½	5½	Brooks Tool	12½		1.0	
51	34½	Brunel	46			
186	135	Bullough†	150	– 1	5.0	
88	55	Burndtnd	73		3.1	32.2
29	14	C1 Group	23		2.2	
283	247	Cardo Engt	247		3.0	15.7
198	110	Chrtrhse	110	– 2	2.3	19.2
1560	1150	Chemring	1350		3.7	9.5
208	150	Chemrite Hld	150		4.0	14.5
369	272	Chesnngt	287	+ 1	3.2	15.3
2660	178	Clyde Blowers	179		3.1	
1000	410	Cobham	307	+ 1	3.2	15.3
1000	408	Colvert (M)	500		0.8	
263	178	Concentric	251		3.2	14.5
310	231	Cookson	231		4.1	10.9
310	231	David Brown	215	– 1	3.8	15.2
462	343	Dbs	348		5.6	13.0
101	69	Elliott (B)	97		3.7	14.1
118	80	Expamet	80		3.8	16.7
212	141½	FKI	144		3.5	16.2
146	109	Fyffes	135		1.4	18.2
45	16	Ferrum	16			
124	91	Barton Eng	91		4.8	
311	265	Glynwed	311		4.7	18.2
65	10	Graseley	10		3.0	17.2
229	148	Guest	150		7.7	14.5
268	228	Hardinge	235	– 1	2.5	
283	202	Headlam†	236½	+ ½	4.1	15.1
124	82½	Isotagar Hl	87		5.7	
440	265	Unilock	269	– 1	1.7	23.1
324	240½	Wassll	269	– 1	1.7	23.1
13½	9½	Whitney	10		2.5	15.6
414½	309	Williams Hldg	337	– 1	4.9	20.8

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
86	31	AAF Intl	38			
168	108	Aerfex Screen	158		3.1	15.6
638	448	Aero Robbert	442		4.1	15.9
590	378	McKechnie	397	– ½	4.8	23.3
65	54	BBA	56		5.1	12.1
18½	8½	Benson Group	11½		3.5	15.8
286	180	Bosnon	280	+ 2	2.5	16.5
39½	7	Bradford†	25	+ 2	5.4	
20½	10½	Brockhse	10½		10.9	
351	275	BSR	353		1.4	
304	206	First Tecnt	263		1.7	22.7
680	510½	GKN	582	– 4	4.4	34.1
4300½	2330½	General Mtr	2570½	+ 2½	2.0	
1295	1011	Hanis Motor	1274½	+ 2½	3.9	
452½	306	Laird	338	+ 3	4.2	15.9
260	233	Leader	245	+ 4		
298	158	Lucas	168	+ 4	4.5	
1000	557	Mayflower	557	– 1	3.1	23.2
134	97	Mitchinsns	102			8.6
176	149	Sytrons	156	– 1	4.8	17.5
261	149	T & N	184	+ 6	6.3	14.3
333	263	Trnsky Hldgs	325	– 1	2.5	23.8

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
520	409	AB Foods†	503	+ 3	3.3	12.8
369	248	Accnts & Hatch	263		4.4	9.8
74	49	Albert Fisher	45	+ 1	10.3	13.3
278	205	Banks (S C)	205	+ 1	6.0	9.4
387	305	Bar (A&P)	378	+ 1	2.6	
1000	557	Bassets Cap	34			
401	378	Booker	391		7.0	14.4
565	44½	Bortbrsck	44½		3.7	21.1
212	156	CPL Aromcs	195		1.9	18.6
524	376	Chalkey-Schvrr	419	+ 6½	4.7	13.9
197	130	Cmbrdge Milling	253		4.7	13.5
154	90	Cranswick	157	+ 4	6.6	11.4
563	380	Dalgety	516		2.2	
1000	557	Dobson	557	– 1	5.5	11.5
1000	557	Dobson	557	– 1	5.5	11.5
1000	557	Dobson	557	– 1	5.5	11.5
1000	557	Dobson	557

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
0895 259 783				
Grofund Amer	161.70	171.10	+4.30	0.23
Grofund Equity	229.50	244.20	+3.50	2.13
Grofund Euro	197.60	209.10	+5.40	0.53
Grofund Expt Bal	109.30	113.30	+4.70	4.04
Grofund Gilt	72.97	75.23	+0.41	5.64
Grofund Japan	158.70	168.08	-0.50	..
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
0203 553 231				
General Acc	520.20	563.50	+11.90	2.87
General Inc	458.80	488.10	+10.50	2.87
UK Growth Acc	350.90	373.30	+8.40	2.93
UK Growth Inc	240.10	255.50	+5.70	2.93
Higher Inc Acc	659.50	701.70	+18.30	4.07
Higher Inc Inc	381.20	405.60	+10.60	4.07
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	183.70	194.10	+1.40	5.95
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	89.32	94.34	+0.83	5.95
Nth America	268.00	285.20	+12.30	..
Far East	326.30	347.20	+6.10	0.37
Europe	267.60	284.70	+7.20	0.92
Brit Excel	68.54	73.98	+1.67	3.14
Brit Fxd Acc	99.35	105.70	+2.30	4.84
Brit Fxd Inc	72.84	77.49	+1.84	4.84
Global Opps	81.51	86.72	+1.59	0.42
Balanced Acc	52.67	56.04†	+1.08	3.10
Balanced Inc	51.38	54.67†	+1.06	3.10
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	127.20	135.00	+0.50	7.50
High Inc Equity	155.00	165.05†	+3.00	4.75
Worldwide Bond	260.70	276.50†	+3.30	5.50
Capital Growth				
American Growth	279.40	299.20†	+9.60	.80
Asian Pacific	299.00	318.10	+15.80	..
Assets & Earnings	249.30	265.20	+5.10	2.94
Comdty & Energy	97.20	103.40	-0.50	..
Euro Capital Inc	131.40	140.50	+3.70	.69
(Accum Units)	140.40	150.10	+4.10	.69
General	218.70	232.70†	+4.00	2.34
Japan	115.70	123.70	-0.40	..
Mastertrust	134.60	144.00	+2.60	1.73
UK Growth Dist	113.70	121.60	..	2.84
US Emerging Cos	133.70	143.00	+5.00	..
Income & Growth	369.80	392.30	+7.50	3.19
Ethical	84.86	89.00	+0.25	2.97
International	109.50	116.50	+1.50	1.15
Dividend & Growth	57.85	61.54†	+0.94	4.57
Global Gwth & Sec	66.39	70.69	+0.12	2.97
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	£16.04	£16.71	+21.00	...
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	43.88	45.55	-1.40	0.68
Cash	50.41	50.41	+0.08	4.46
Emerging Mkts	66.76	70.76	+1.56	0.05
European	109.10	114.00†	+1.70	..
Exempt	932.30	£10.03†	-2.56	1.85
Extra Income #	46.93	49.37	+0.17	6.11
Far East Emg Ecn	107.50	114.10	+3.10	0.55
Fixed Interest #	22.61	23.74	-0.06	8.71
Fund Inv Tst	165.50	174.20	+1.00	0.96
Japan	166.80	174.60	+0.80	..
Latin American	50.08	52.57	-1.21	0.92
Pacific	68.20	71.80	-2.37	0.37
Property Share	59.97	62.95†	+0.72	2.17
UK Emerging Cos	60.09	63.08†	-0.75	1.98
UK Growth	42.70	45.25	-0.62	2.59
Aber World Port #	69.75	70.86	+1.60	2.31
Ethical	60.05	63.04	-0.70	2.79
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	49.15	49.15	-0.14	7.63
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
031 549 3232				
British Growth	67.07	71.36†	+0.73	2.72
British Income	77.68	82.64†	-0.87	3.44
Select Portfolio	81.83	87.06†	+2.14	..
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
0452 305 958				
Amity Income	71.56	75.93	+0.64	2.57
Income Builder Inc	65.47	69.65	-1.33	2.93
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 0793 610 366 Client dlg: 0793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	220.70	235.90	+3.90	3.31
Capital	386.20	412.80	+4.50	2.03
Balanced	645.60	690.10†	+9.30	2.88
Accumulator	£12.00	£12.82	+22.00	3.16
Income Trusts				
American Income	46.88	50.11†	+0.55	3.55
High Income	376.00	401.30	+7.50	3.84
Equity Income	212.00	226.62†	+5.00	3.68
High Yield	227.40	243.00	+3.70	3.58
Govt Securities	32.60	34.42†	+0.12	6.16
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	142.80	152.60	+3.30	0.46
European Growth	33.36	35.62	+0.43	0.01
International	151.50	161.90†	+1.70	0.20
Japan	191.10	203.60†	-1.40	0.01
Pacific	359.40	384.10†	+10.20	0.01
Secs of America	414.80	441.30†	+5.80	0.52
Whole Accel Val	45.67	48.82	+0.89	8.25
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	494.30	528.40†	+9.60	2.41
Cash & Gilt	41.11	43.94†	+0.71	5.28
Smaller Cos	159.20	170.10†	+0.10	1.21
2nd Smaller Cos	151.80	162.20	+0.10	1.50
Recovery	128.40	137.30	+1.70	1.91
Met Min & Cdty	140.00	149.60	+1.00	0.80
Oasis Earnings	331.40	354.20†	+6.80	1.90
Technology	157.50	168.30	+4.00	0.01
UK Special Sits	426.10	455.50	+8.20	1.90
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0293 526 911				
Cntrctd Out Pens	93.45	97.09	...	3.04
Foundtn Persl Pens	58.51	60.78	...	2.28
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0033				
Capital	68.00	72.34†	+1.04	1.94
International	61.87	65.61†	+1.58	..
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
031 222 4242				
America	273.90	294.90	+11.70	..
Bond	109.80	115.80†	+1.10	7.19
Brit Smlr Cos	93.17	99.84†	+0.18	1.92
Conv & Gen #	62.71	65.71†	+0.70	5.59
Europe	214.60	228.70	+4.80	0.51
Euro Smlr Cos	96.72	103.20	+1.40	0.61
Income Gwth	332.70	353.90	+2.10	4.48
Japan	287.30	304.80	-2.30	..
Latin American	65.14	69.39	-1.98	..
Pacific	97.85	104.10	+3.60	0.77
UK Smlr Cos	49.76	52.94†	-0.57	1.44
Japan Fd	656.80	676.70†	-4.30	..
Mngd Fd	166.40	177.00	+3.10	2.97
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
071 489 8673				
Brit & Overs	271.20	285.50	+7.00	1.29
Capital Gwth	107.60	113.30	+3.00	2.37
Wwide Opps	171.70	180.70	+4.20	0.44
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
081 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bicl Inv Fd Inc	329.20	342.90	+6.50	3.03
European Bd Inc	87.39	90.50†	+0.85	7.89
Exempt	70.81	75.53	+1.11	4.38
Financial	69.86	74.71	+1.29	2.91
500.0	421.50	456.80	-0.80	2.62
General	282.40	290.60	+5.90	2.76
Property	347.30	364.50	+0.56	6.29
Trustee	171.80	183.70†	+2.40	2.54
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.40	100.40†	+0.10	5.16
Extra Income	113.20	121.10	+3.10	4.22
Gilt & Fxd Int	58.48	59.38	+0.31	8.84
Income	494.20	528.60†	+8.60	4.36
Income Builder	60.95	64.85	+0.85	4.86
Intl Income	59.58	63.36†	+1.14	3.77
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	111.90	119.40†	+1.70	2.64
Leisure	115.60	123.60	+0.50	1.69
Recovery	391.50	418.70	+7.30	2.89
Smlr Cos Inc	41.92	44.95	+0.28	2.05
Special Sits	266.80	285.50	+2.80	1.69
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	122.90	130.40	+4.00	0.72
Aust Acc	225.50	239.90	-1.80	2.28
Aust Inc	138.70	147.60	-1.00	2.28
Euro Grwt Inc	146.20	155.30	+3.60	0.75
(Accum Units)	156.40	166.20	+3.90	0.75
Japan & Gen Inc	163.10	172.70	+9.80	..
(Accum Units)	165.00	174.70	+0.80	..
Japan Spec Sits	74.44	78.85	-0.02	..
Unly Tech Inc	75.78	80.54	+2.16	0.05
Worldwide	159.60	169.50†	+3.40	0.67
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	91.91	97.58	+2.46	..
Amer Smlr Cos	129.60	138.90	+5.40	..
Convertibles	53.54	57.26	+0.51	5.70
Eastern	249.70	269.70	+14.20	0.10
Equity Income	84.56	89.95†	+1.31	4.90
European Growth	289.60	307.00	+8.90	0.80
Europe	211.70	224.90	+5.10	0.30
German Growth	73.40	77.77	+2.24	0.50
Global Bond	68.77	64.01†	+0.55	6.20
Global Growth	119.00	128.80	+2.60	...
Japan Growth	192.50	205.30	-1.50	..
Japan Sunrise	162.40	173.00	-2.40	..
Korea Trust	74.61	82.74	+3.08	..
Portfolio	124.10	133.00	+2.30	1.80
(Accum Units)	226.40	242.60	+4.10	1.80
UK Growth	80.32	85.44	+1.54	1.40
UK Smaller Cos	80.87	86.49	-0.09	1.80
Select Managers	70.98	76.02	+1.35	1.10
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
071 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	70.78	75.30†	+1.20	..
Special Oppor Inc	50.59	53.82†	-0.03	..
For Brewin Dolphin see GEM Dolphin				
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD				
041 228 0020				
Balanced Growth	100.74	106.60	+1.70	1.97
(Accum Units)	113.24	119.83	+1.91	1.97
Smaller Cos	95.75	101.33	+0.51	1.28
Higher Yield #	42.59	45.06†	+0.64	4.78
American Gth Inc	70.48	74.58†	+1.77	..
European Growth	133.44	141.21	+1.23	..
(Accum Units)	136.07	143.99	+1.26	..
Global Bond Inc #	26.24	27.19	+0.25	7.49
Mngd Ptflo Inc	40.03	42.34	+0.67	1.72
(Accum Units)	40.60	42.94	+0.68	1.72
Int Spec Opps	107.47	113.72	+1.38	..
Pacific Gth	116.03	122.78	+3.18	...
Formerly LAS				
UK General #	71.94	76.13†	+2.30	3.73
(Accum Units) #	73.67	77.96	+2.36	3.73
Japan	57.45	60.79†	-0.09	..
Gilt & Fixed Int #	84.54	86.47	+0.52	7.49
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	65.00	65.84	+0.22	6.21
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
061 837 5060				
Environ	147.60	157.10	+1.70	1.76
UK Growth	159.10	169.30†	+3.10	2.44
UK Income	127.80	136.00	+1.90	4.50
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0707 651 122				
Can Gen Dist	178.90	189.60†	+4.20	2.89
-do- Income Dist	106.00	112.40	+1.90	4.45
(Accum Units)	320.00	339.20	+5.70	4.45
Gilt & Fxd Int	38.63	40.85†	+0.19	6.84
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
061 236 5685 Enq: 061 236 5685 Dlg: 061 236 6362				
American & Gen	150.00	159.60	+5.50	...
European Inc	78.03	80.47	+1.35	0.59
Smaller Cos (4-1)	78.40	81.28	-0.20	2.09
Growth	401.70	427.40	+11.20	2.59
Income & Growth	383.60	408.10†	+9.80	4.14
(Accum Units)	547.40	582.40	+14.10	4.14
Japan & Gen	67.36	71.48	-0.43	..
Master Portfolio	£97.53	£101.26†	+£1.19	2.05
(Accum Units)	£118.36	£120.81	+£1.40	2.05
Special Sits	91.46	97.30†	+2.35	2.57
High Yield	£12.53	£12.92	+31.00	4.57
For Capital House see Newton				
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
071 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	79.39	84.66†	+1.01	2.61
American Portfolio	89.01	94.82	+1.22	1.22
European Portfolio	94.38	100.60	+0.88	0.79
Japanese Portfolio	60.53	64.27†	+0.20	..
Pacific Portfolio	129.95	139.74	+3.25	0.93
UK Inc & Growth	72.84	78.18	+0.92	3.43
Utility & Bond	54.26	54.84	+0.92	7.08
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
071 588 1815				
Inv Fund	627.75	633.45	...	4.88
Fxd Int Sec	147.85	148.20	...	8.76
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
071 332 5000				
UK General Tst	80.58	84.44†	+1.35	3.08
COIF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD				
071 588 1815				
Inc	618.87	626.52	...	4.96
Accum	£26.31	£26.58	...	...
Fixed Int Inc	120.20	120.42	...	9.63
Fixed Int Acc	187.68	187.95	...	...
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
071 837 7667				
Intl Growth	113.21	123.87	+2.20	...
UK Income	101.96	108.40	+1.28	5.54
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
071 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	75.89	80.25	+2.18	1.51
Beck Bio-Tech	26.87	29.80	+1.51	...
Accel Ethical Tst	145.90	153.58	+1.26	0.73
City Fin Assets	83.70	87.77	+0.48	1.32
City Fin America	85.65	90.16	+4.72	...
City Fin Intl	71.75	75.53	+2.82	0.98
City Fin Japan	151.18	159.15†	+1.64	...
Friars Hse Cap	256.56	277.16†	+4.47	1.78
Friars Hse Inc	183.62	195.34	+2.11	4.22
Buckley Wrld Gth	117.07	124.54	+3.80	0.09
Fairmnt Cap Gth	129.74	138.02	+3.26	..
Fairmount Intl	142.79	151.90	+3.46	...
City Fin Pfflo Inc	51.57	54.86	+0.79	4.39
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
071 711 0771 Admin: 0277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	52.25	55.44	+1.83	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 373 393				
American Gwth	55.65	59.52	+2.28	..
Atlas Mngd Gwth	34.57	36.97	+0.56	0.49
Dragon Growth	63.61	68.03	+2.81	0.43
Equity High Inc	79.07	84.12	+2.15	4.13
(Accum Units)	106.33	113.12	+2.91	4.13
European Gwth	49.92	52.68	+1.41	0.87
Evergreen	27.55	29.47	+0.85	..
General Equity	79.98	84.84	+1.55	2.72
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	23.69	25.20†	+0.15	9.40
Japan Growth	48.15	51.50	-0.26	..
Pedigree Gwth	48.01	51.37	+0.73	2.74
Ped Sm Cos Inc	28.67	30.50	+0.07	1.36
(Accum Units)	29.78	31.68	+0.08	1.36
Retirement Inc #	24.71	26.29	+0.58	6.05
Special Sits	35.85	38.14	+0.37	2.05
UK & Overseas	45.68	48.60	+0.94	1.49
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
0634 898 000				
Capital	64.03	68.48†	+1.68	2.32
Income	57.59	61.59†	+1.26	4.29
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
081 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	150.83	160.51	+3.45	5.59
Fixed & Convertible	39.01	41.50†	+0.39	7.41
Monthly Inc Plus	47.44	50.47	+0.29	8.88
Preference Share	46.17	49.12†	+0.19	7.53
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	117.55	125.05†	+2.69	7.45
Managed Fund	64.74	68.87	+1.40	3.08
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	36.39	38.71	-0.09	1.75
(Accum Units)	41.63	44.29	-0.10	1.75
UK & General	74.29	79.03	+1.75	2.81
(Accum Units)	92.98	98.91	+2.20	2.81
UK Growth	132.78	141.26	+3.48	2.41
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	186.70	198.62	+4.85	0.25
Far Eastern Gth	120.63	128.33	+3.85	..
Global Bond	78.24	81.01	+1.03	6.25
Japan Growth	111.70	118.83	+0.34	..
North Amer Gth	162.49	172.86	+6.70	..
Oriental Growth	71.60	76.17	+3.87	..
Worldwide Growth	62.32	66.30	+1.42	0.09
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.84	92.84	-0.08	5.89
Homeowner Fund	74.07	78.80†	+1.60	1.92
Dollar Fund	120.84	128.55†	+2.96	3.05
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD				
0438 744 840				
Growth Inc	55.04	58.55†	+0.98	3.20
(Accum Units)	59.60	63.40	+1.08	3.20
High Income	32.32	34.38	+0.51	4.60
Japan	33.48	35.61	+0.12	..
Smaller Cos Inc	28.50	30.31	-0.14	2.70
Smaller Cos	30.18	32.10	-0.15	2.70
North American	32.00	34.04	+1.00	0.70
European	36.32	38.63	+0.88	0.60
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
071 407 5966				
Consistent UT	29.55	31.46†	+0.25	3.53
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	133.20	141.30	-2.80	2.12
Income	66.10	70.32†	+0.91	5.28
European	58.22	63.00	+0.64	1.10
Recovery	147.10	156.50	+1.70	1.93
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
071 283 9494				
Equity Dist	755.90	768.40	...	3.79
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
0277 690 370				
Fellowship Tst	69.25	73.67	+0.83	1.34
Income #	226.00	240.40	+4.50	4.84
(Accum Units) #	556.35	592.00	+11.00	4.84
Smaller Cos	148.00	157.40†	+0.70	0.82
(Accum Units)	180.90	192.40†	+0.80	0.82
Inv Portfolio	74.88	79.66	+1.65	1.50
High Inc Port #	65.39	69.56	+1.46	4.99
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
071 410 0177				
Euro Small Cos	£15.02	£15.38	+23.00	..
Japan Small Cos	£11.89	£12.12	-0.70	..
UK Small Cos	£16.83	£17.58†	-2.60	..
US Small Cos	£15.76	£16.26	+55.58	..
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
071 377 8818				
Disc Inc	191.90	202.00	-1.60	3.07
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
031 315 2500				
European Gwth	268.40	283.70	+5.50	0.98
New Asia	197.00	209.70	+9.90	0.18
Japan Growth	113.00	120.40	-0.30	...
Jap Smlr Co	463.70	493.00	-1.50	...
Nth Amer	257.40	272.80	+10.09	0.87
Sfded Asia Pac Mt	111.40	117.70	+4.80	0.38
UK Inc & Grth	201.10	214.70	+4.20	3.10
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
0242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	132.70	141.20	+2.20	1.90
UK High Inc Inc	141.80	150.90	+2.80	4.77
(Accum Units)	181.80	193.20	+3.60	4.77
UK Pref & F I Inc	56.13	59.58	+0.28	5.26
Emerging Opps	79.17	84.22	-0.83	1.11
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
American	120.20	127.60	+3.36	1.32
Convertibles #	19.81	21.05	+0.24	6.65
Equity Income #	119.40	126.90	+1.58	4.18
EuroFund	43.94	46.61	+0.81	0.43
Financial	41.57	44.27	+0.76	1.69
Growth & Inc #	221.30	235.10†	+3.90	3.28
High Dist #	146.80	155.80	+2.60	4.81
International	360.50	383.00	+5.40	0.13
Inv Cap Inc	89.14	95.16†	+1.88	2.89
Latin American	27.86	29.60	-1.51	..
Pacific	74.91	79.59	+2.90	..
Preference Share	22.03	23.41†	+0.14	7.05
Tokyo	207.80	220.80	-2.20	..
UK Smaller Cos	211.40	224.60	-0.60	1.22
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
071 242 0242				
Elcon Trust	201.20	214.74	+5.28	1.01
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	186.00	209.00	+4.80	1.01
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0296 431 480				
European	77.11	81.17	+1.39	1.54
Ethical Tst	41.57	43.76†	+0.18	1.33
Far Eastern	276.29	292.94	+4.89	2.05
High Income	125.33	131.93	+3.16	4.93
Intl Growth	112.78	118.72	+0.97	1.36
North American	107.10	112.74	+2.69	1.35
Pelican	111.00	116.84	+2.23	3.30
Smaller Cos	64.00	67.37	-0.14	2.81
Special Sits	83.09	87.46	+0.37	2.45
Tst of Inv Tsts	172.07	181.13†	+1.44	1.60
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	190.67	198.81	-2.20	1.48
Smaller Cos Acc	333.63	347.53	-3.86	1.48
Recovery	48.33	50.34	-0.83	1.41
Recovery Acc	48.84	50.88	-0.65	1.41
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0392 412 144				
Balanced	107.81	114.69	+0.73	6.06
Capital Growth	78.47	82.00	+1.36	..
Fd of Inv Tsts	41.98	44.78†	+0.73	0.65
High Income #	40.85	43.78†	-0.10	10.51
Warrant	49.85	54.19	+0.17	..
Zero Preference	36.66	38.92	+0.15	..
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
0273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	73.57	78.29†	+1.19	2.64
Family Income Tst	45.51	45.51†	+0.48	6.31
Family Trust	79.70	84.78†	+0.04	1.52
United Charities	248.00	263.70	+1.00	3.95
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	5.80
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	26.47	26.57†	-0.01	7.75
Intl Bond	27.27	28.30†	+0.42	5.35
Income Funds				
High Income	33.70	35.00†	+0.17	5.20
Income Plus	105.02	111.76	+2.00	4.26
Amer Eq Inc	45.63	48.53†	+1.35	2.09
European Income	40.71	43.20	+0.44	1.76
Far East Inc	59.01	62.77	+0.68	3.08
Global Convertible	21.64	23.09	+0.24	3.73
UK Div Gth	23.28	24.76	+0.35	1.88
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	58.85	62.78	+2.31	...
American	234.30	249.10	+7.80	...
Amer Spec Sits	111.29	118.70	+3.40	...
Japan Smaller Cos	38.44	40.87	-0.25	...
European	163.20	173.80	+2.80	...
European Opps	60.32	64.14	+0.49	...
Global Priv	23.69	25.21	+0.59	1.02
UK Growth	84.88	90.29	+0.11	...
Growth & Inc	133.58	142.00†	+1.40	2.41
Intl PEP	34.61	37.02	+0.74	..
Japan Spec Sits	88.00	93.73†	-0.25	..
Japan	179.10	190.60	-0.90	...
Managed Intl	259.00	276.00	+6.20	...
MoneyBuilder	50.02	53.24	+0.96	...
Recovery	45.02	47.87	+0.33	...
South E Asia	137.70	146.90	+6.90	...
Special Sits	480.30	510.60	+10.90	...
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	108.12	108.12	+0.09	5.60
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 814 2700				
Balanced #	128.30	131.28	+2.40	1.62
Inc Ptflo #	81.87	83.40	+1.76	4.01
Cap Ptflo	133.80	136.30†	+2.50	1.32
General Opps	115.50	117.40	+1.70	3.57
Growth Inc	28.74	29.32	+0.57	1.83
Private Portfolio	389.70	391.80	+10.60	1.34
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Enq: 071 454 1454 Dlg: 0277 261 010				
Hypo Foreign & Colonial				
European	109.20	115.40	+2.50	0.59
Emrg Asian	159.30	170.40	+8.10	..
High Income	20.75	22.04†	+0.29	10.21
Opcs Income	87.19	93.21	+1.65	3.45
UK Growth	101.10	106.20†	+1.40	1.70
UK Income	100.90	107.50	+1.80	3.61
US Smaller Cos	293.30	313.70	+18.90	...
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
071 407 5966				
High Inc Eqty	45.45	47.82	+0.84	3.42
-do- Inv Tst Inc	71.65	75.34	+3.14	4.39
Intl Growth	64.60	67.93	+1.02	1.31
Investment Trust	85.18	89.57	+4.39	..
UK Smaller Cos	74.54	78.38†	+0.35	1.02
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
071 374 4100				
American Growth	55.39	59.30	+2.12	..
(Accum Units)	55.39	59.30	+2.12	...
Amer Smlr Cos	468.40	498.80	+20.10	...
(Accum Units)	478.40	508.50	+20.40	...
Capital Tst	298.40	308.80	-0.80	1.61
(Accum Units)	414.70	441.00	-1.10	1.61
Contl Smlr Cos	57.47	61.70	+1.25	0.30
(Accum Units)	69.43	84.90	+1.83	0.50
Convertible	120.00	128.60†	+0.50	5.67
(Accum Units)	244.30	259.80†	+1.00	5.67
Emerging Markets	66.15	70.67	+0.94	..
(Accum Units)	66.26	70.72	+0.93	..
European	114.20	121.40	+2.40	0.14
(Accum Units)	119.70	127.20	+2.50	0.14
Extra Income	312.70	332.60†	+4.80	4.04
(Accum Units)	459.80	489.60†	+7.20	4.04
Financial	118.10	126.90	+3.70	0.30
(Accum Units)	124.40	131.80	+3.90	0.30
Gilt Trust	81.31	83.22	+0.42	6.37
(Accum Units)	85.82	88.29	+0.59	6.37
Health Fund Inc	132.50	141.50	+5.50	...
(Accum Units)	132.50	141.50	+5.50	...
Income & Growth	180.00	191.50	+2.50	3.32
(Accum Units)	271.80	289.80	+4.30	3.32
Intl Growth	341.70	365.10	+5.40	..
(Accum Units)	379.50	405.50	+6.00	..
Japan & Gen	162.50	173.80	-0.90	..
(Accum Units)	164.20	175.50	-1.00	..
Managed Port Inc	98.28	104.50	+1.30	1.47
(Accum Units)	105.29	110.70	+1.20	1.47
Quarterly Income	60.05	63.23	+0.26	4.76
(Accum Units)	53.23	58.82	+0.28	4.76
Recovery	324.70	347.20†	+4.60	0.13
(Accum Units)	382.30	406.70†	+5.40	0.13
UK Growth	51.25	54.76	+1.00	2.79
(Accum Units)	53.01	56.64	+1.04	2.79
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing: 0705 881330 Enqs: 0705 881340				
FP Am Smllr Cos	108.50	116.40	+2.00	0.0
FP Asian Growth	238.70	257.00	+12.70	0.0
FP Equity Dist	364.10	387.30	+7.30	2.76
-do- Accum	769.00	818.00	+15.40	2.76
FP Euro Gth Dist	139.50	148.40†	+3.00	13.10
-do- Accum	145.40	154.80†	+3.10	13.10
FP Fixed Inc Dist	129.20	138.50	+0.70	7.41
-do- Accum	238.90	250.30	+1.30	7.41
FP Intl Gth Dist	87.50	93.08	+1.94	0.65
-do- Accum	91.62	97.46	+2.03	0.65
FP Nth Amer Dist	182.30	193.10†	+5.50	1.24
-do- Accum	200.90	212.80†	+6.10	1.24
FP Pac Basin Dist	290.20	308.70†	+7.20	0.21
-do- Accum	296.10	315.00†	+7.40	0.21
FP Income	51.20	54.72	+1.27	4.20
(Accum Units)	166.00	177.00	+4.00	4.20
FP Jap Smlr Cos	326.70	348.40	-6.80	0.0
FP Monthly Dist	68.63	73.24†	+1.74	8.06
FP Stlg Deposit	100.50	100.50†	+0.10	6.25
FP Tokyo	81.80	87.25	+0.48	0.0
FP UK Focus	34.70	37.40	+1.17	2.07
FP UK Growth	162.40	173.20†	+3.20	2.78
(Accum Units)	314.90	335.40	+6.30	2.78
Stewardship Dist	309.10	328.80	+2.00	2.08
-do- Accum	378.00	402.10	+2.40	2.08
Stewdsp Inc Dist	67.37	71.66†	+0.16	3.65
-do- Accum	87.38	92.95†	+0.20	3.65
N Am Stshp Dist	93.97	99.95†	+3.12	0.77
-do- Accum	99.83	106.20†	+3.30	0.77
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	102.90	109.40	+1.90	0.92
Opps Cap Gth Acc	104.70	111.30	+1.70	0.29
Cap Gth Inc Inc	99.27	105.60	+1.80	1.78
Cap Gth Inc Acc	101.70	108.10	+1.90	1.78
Opp Cp Gth Ic Ic	101.40	107.80†	+1.60	1.82
Opp Cp Gth Ic Ac	104.00	110.60	+1.60	1.82
NM Unit Trusts				
American	44.33	47.15	+1.13	1.17
Australian	297.90	319.60	+0.10	0.0
European	196.50	209.00	+4.70	0.79
(Accum Units)	212.50	226.00	+5.00	0.79
Gilt & FI	54.72	57.67†	+0.24	6.52
Gold	43.89	47.19	-0.56	0.0
Intl	30.60	32.85	+0.85	0.50
(Accum Units)	44.37	47.35	+1.23	0.50
Smaller Cos	28.18	30.30	-0.07	1.26
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 108/7				
GANDA	224.00	236.90	+3.70	2.66
Cash	49.32	50.05†	+0.04	4.90
Growth Portfolio	73.78	78.18	+2.42	1.04
Income Portfolio	81.39	84.92†	+1.40	4.53
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD				
071 236 6441				
Special Sits	168.30	177.90	+2.50	1.58
Dividend	80.01	85.57†	+1.09	4.03
Intl Gth & Inc	205.00	219.30†	+3.90	3.32
UK & Gen	42.04	44.96	+0.30	2.46
Fund of Funds	60.10	64.28	+1.14	..
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
071 710 4567 Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	178.10	190.50	+4.40	..
European	541.50	579.70	+10.00	0.47
Far East & Gen	239.70	256.40	+5.10	..
Germany	113.90	120.20	+1.90	..
Income Inc	144.50	154.60	+1.10	4.69
(Accum Units)	153.10	163.80	+1.30	4.69
International	307.00	328.40	+2.50	0.21
Intl Income	76.95	81.57	+2.29	4.16
Japan & General	370.50	394.10	-0.10	..
Korean Securities	61.33	65.60	+1.48	..
Smllr Cos Div Inc	42.56	45.54†	-0.25	5.27
UK Capital Inc	155.70	166.60†	+1.09	1.39
UK Capital Acc	272.10	291.10	+1.89	1.39
UK Spec Sits	77.74	83.15	-0.22	0.74
US & General	131.20	139.70	+4.20	..
Wwide Spec Sits	141.40	151.30	+2.00	...
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
071 782 2000 Dlgs only: 0277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	44.84	47.94†	+1.20	2.46
Cash Trust	138.44	138.44†	+0.10	6.23
Positive Inv Inc #	109.58	117.20	+1.36	3.51
(Accum Units) #	249.14	266.46	+3.09	3.51
UK Index	141.13	143.82	+3.10	3.41
UK Smaller Cos	113.89	121.58	+0.31	1.10
Income Funds				
Preference Share	24.52	26.22†	-0.47	8.42
High Income	31.48	33.65†	+0.44	5.32
UK Equity Income	128.01	136.91†	+2.21	3.75
Global Bond	27.77	28.78	+0.45	5.35
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	46.16	49.37	+1.36	0.16
Global Inc & Gth	126.21	134.47	+2.34	2.26
Gold & Intl Res	99.95	106.99	+0.70	0.07
Global Utilities	125.05	134.30†	+3.33	1.24
Overseas Funds				
American	139.22	148.50	+4.28	1.20
European	97.80	103.93	+2.71	1.02
Euro Sel Opps	140.51	149.64	+3.72	..
Amer Emerging	96.52	103.23	+3.33	..
Hong Kong	125.29	134.28	+10.59	1.86
Japan	228.00	242.04	-0.95	..
Pacific Growth	201.34	215.34	+11.41	1.53
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	204.25	204.25†	+3.87	2.12
Long Term Bal	223.75	223.75†	+4.33	3.89
Med Term Bal	190.83	190.83†	+3.00	3.65
UK Equity	231.27	231.27	+5.30	2.53
UK Emerging Cos	132.59	132.59	+0.09	2.32
American	230.37	230.37	+7.09	1.51
Japan	117.70	117.70	-1.51	..
European	251.24	251.24	+3.84	1.10
Index Linked Gilt	165.03	165.03	+0.69	3.02
Fixed Interest	153.97	153.97	+0.97	6.85
Amer Emerging	241.35	241.35	+1.86	0.20
Pacific	219.50	219.50	+12.32	0.97
Emerging Mkts	126.46	126.46†	-1.49	0.06
Index Strat Japan	144.98	144.98†	+0.14	0.27
-do- Pacific Rim	170.01	170.01†	+10.69	1.41
-do- Cont Europe	146.15	146.15†	+4.86	1.77
Index Strat USA	131.87	131.87†	+4.06	2.33
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	96.49	102.65	+1.94	...
Med Term Bal	90.78	96.58	+1.52	...
Long Term Bal	100.73	107.16	+2.08	...
UK Equity	108.95	113.78	+2.61	...
UK Emerging Cos	82.16	88.13	+0.05	...
American	106.82	113.63	+3.49	...
Japan	58.88	62.62	-0.26	...
European	105.68	112.42	+2.76	...
Fixed Interest	77.89	82.89	+0.52	...
Index Linked Gilt	73.29	77.96	+0.32	...
Deposit	80.04	85.15	+0.06	...
Broker Unit Trusts				
Berkeley Int Gth	111.70	118.80†	+1.80	...
Berkeley Income #	106.20	113.00†	+1.20	3.87
BWH Intl	131.84	136.67	+2.44	0.61
Brdsif Gth Port Inc	58.22	61.45	+0.90	0.80
-do- Inc Port Inc	54.23	57.23†	+0.71	3.40
-do- Wwide Port	50.85	53.67	+0.87	0.10
Shaw Utilities	57.35	60.53	+2.32	2.83
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 071 493 9990				
GAM Intl Inc	521.04	554.30†	+8.58	1.61
(Accum Units)	572.63	616.49	+7.31	1.61
European Inc	136.76	145.50†	+2.80	0.66
Amalgam Inc	136.45	144.37	+0.79	...
N America Inc	322.89	343.61	+10.23	...
Far East Inc	319.07	339.44	+14.37	...
(Accum Units)	330.45	351.55	+14.77	...
UK Dvld Inc	168.01	178.73†	+0.80	1.53
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD				
071 378 7979 Dealing: 071 407 7686				
UK Equity Inc	84.61	89.28	+1.70	4.71
UK Small Cos	45.38	48.53	-0.17	1.01
British Growth	51.32	54.20	+0.83	2.57
American Growth	162.54	173.94†	+10.22	..
Japan Gwth	71.18	76.13†	-0.14	..
Greater China	179.34	191.81	+9.86	..
Pacific Strategy	150.85	161.34†	+3.77	..
European Gwth	83.38	89.17	+1.84	0.29
Intl Growth	138.01	147.61	+4.65	..
US Index (£)	13.42	14.15	+0.59	4.90
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	71.46	75.56	+1.47	2.28
Monthly Income	36.17	36.55†	+0.71	8.00
MIS Unit Trust Dealing: 071 665 0033				
Gnd UK Index (£)	10.08	10.67	+0.57	4.40
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 488 1212				
Small Cos	82.80	88.09†	-1.36	1.74
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
071 538 5858				
Cash	138.00	138.60	+0.10	4.29
European	471.00	503.10	+10.50	0.15
Gilt & Fixed	125.50	133.20	+0.70	5.64
Growth Equity	311.80	333.10	+7.40	2.06
Income Trust	124.80	133.40	+3.00	3.90
International	172.80	184.40	+3.80	...
Japan Trust	121.90	130.20†	+0.80	...
Nth American	255.40	272.80	+8.70	0.20
Pacific	507.50	542.20	+18.10	...
GuardInO	465.70	497.50	+9.80	2.62
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
071 522 2129				
GAM Trust	100.48	104.30	+1.67	8.55
Global High Inc	98.03	101.74†	+1.85	6.62
Prem Fixed Int	100.73	104.56	+0.63	8.37
Eqty & Bond Inc	98.38	104.58†	+1.52	5.14
European Growth	99.07	105.34	+2.96	..
Intl PEP Trust	57.62	61.48	+2.98	..
High Income	113.51	120.69†	+0.16	4.32
-do- Accum	156.16	166.04	+0.22	4.32
Recovery	350.10	372.30	-0.50	1.67
(Accum Units)	401.90	427.30	-0.70	1.67
St Wsc High Inc	120.92	122.63	+0.68	7.14
UK Emerg Cos	234.80	249.60	-1.30	1.49
UK Smlr Cos	351.10	357.30†	+0.30	2.09
Glob Priv Tst	90.13	95.83	+2.29	1.51
(Accum Units)	90.97	96.72	+2.30	1.51
Inc Share Tst	85.31	90.70	+0.08	8.20
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing: 0171 220 5050				
Growth	24.31	25.77	+0.64	2.00
Growth Acc	24.31	25.77	+0.64	2.00
Income	24.37	25.84	+0.55	3.50
Income Acc	24.37	25.84	+0.55	3.50
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 390				
Model Ptflo	191.30	203.00	+3.10	2.67
Smaller Cos	30.59	32.54†	-0.17	0.85
HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT				
Enquiries: 0277 263 280 Dealing: 0277 234 772				
UK Funds				
Special Sits	277.73	297.17	+0.46	1.39
Best of British	61.47	65.34	+1.41	2.74
UK Smaller Cos	119.30	127.17†	+0.08	1.62
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth	263.30	280.40	+5.29	3.67
(Accum Units)	707.78	753.75	+14.21	3.67
High Income #	301.67	322.48†	+2.83	4.17
Extra Income #	267.02	283.97	+4.21	5.93
Pref & Gilt	45.03	45.04†	+0.25	8.70
International				
International	256.03	272.23	+5.59	0.61
Global Bond	52.08	55.40	+0.60	6.56
Family of Funds	77.82	83.01†	+1.37	0.16
Global Tech	151.40	161.02	+8.12	..
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	162.72	174.01	+5.79	0.42
European	456.13	485.31	+9.88	0.35
European Income	78.63	83.25†	+1.56	2.72
Euro Smlr Cos	148.65	158.57	+2.93	0.05
Eur Sp Sits	68.68	73.04	+0.93	0.22
(Accum Units)	73.56	78.25	+1.01	0.22
Japan Trust	201.41	214.33†	-2.77	..
Japan Special Sits	226.95	241.74	-2.31	..
Pacific Smlr Cos	234.90	251.34	+3.75	..
North American	234.49	249.23†	+8.18	0.52
American Smaller	105.72	113.01	+3.82	...
Henderson TR Pension Portfolio				
American Growth	55.86	59.21	+1.68	..
Eur Sp Sits	59.18	62.73	+0.81	..
General Growth	41.85	44.36	+0.88	...
Global Tech	59.24	62.79	+2.38	..
Income Growth	40.58	43.01	+0.77	..
Japan Growth	24.67	26.15	-0.32	..
Smaller Cos	21.28	22.55	+0.02	..
Special Opps	28.31	30.00	+0.02	..
Wwide Sp Sits	46.68	49.48	+1.01	..
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
081 686 4355				
British	93.44	97.84	+1.55	2.00
Capital	164.10	171.80†	+3.10	1.57
Dollar	338.50	354.40	+11.50	0.80
Enterprise Gth	304.80	319.10	-1.10	2.01
European	216.40	226.50	+5.40	0.40
Far East	299.50	313.60	+13.90	0.01
Financial	767.20	803.30	+20.00	1.59
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	24.91	25.90†	+0.18	7.59
High Yield	99.42	104.10	+1.80	4.37
Income & Growth	136.40	142.80	+2.40	3.64
International	240.60	251.90†	+5.00	..
Japanese General	191.00	200.00	-1.60	..
Japan Tech	76.83	80.45†	-0.36	..
Nat Resources	67.07	70.23	-0.41	..
Portfolio	68.80	72.04	+1.01	1.46
Smaller Cos	119.30	124.90	..	1.63
Special Sits	144.60	151.40	+3.29	1.70
UK Emerging Cos	88.27	92.42	+0.25	1.02
US Smaller Cos	82.63	86.52	+3.09	..
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers: 0800 181 890 Inv: 0800 289 505				
UK Funds				
Balanced #	96.51	103.00†	+1.60	6.71
Capital	562.90	600.70	+18.30	2.49
Income #	531.70	567.40†	+12.50	5.22
Footsie Fund	51.10	54.03	-1.23	2.80
Trdle Index	102.30	109.20	+0.30	2.15
UK Index	121.70	140.60†	-2.90	3.19
International Funds				
American Growth	475.30	507.30	+10.20	0.83
American Index	197.00	210.10†	+6.00	1.21
European Growth	108.10	114.90†	-2.20	0.33
Eurotrack 100	153.20	162.90†	+4.50	0.87
Global Bond	20.37	21.49†	+0.38	6.05
Japan Growth	258.00	274.70	+0.30	..
Japan Index	76.47	81.51†	-0.35	0.04
Japan Smlr Cos	33.31	35.55†	-0.17	..
International High Growth Funds				
Asian	52.25	55.78†	+3.13	0.23
Hong Kong Gwth	88.52	94.47	+7.29	1.50
Spore & Mlyse Gth	70.76	75.52	-4.07	..
Tiger Index	192.20	205.10	+5.10	1.41
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
071 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	28.72	29.81†	+0.03	1.10
General Funds				
Managed	66.45	71.05	-1.27	1.97
Rupert Child Fnd	81.18	84.26	-2.05	2.55
UK Growth	56.87	59.03	+1.33	2.44
High Income Funds				
Cashbox (Dist)	50.05	50.05†	+0.04	4.87
Cashbox (Acc)	59.07	59.01†	+0.04	4.87
UK Extra Inc	81.84	84.94†	-1.45	6.69
Gilt & Fixed Int	25.75	26.55†	-0.19	7.73
UK Inc & Gwth	38.75	40.22	-0.90	4.00
UK Income	322.50	334.70	+8.50	3.79
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	47.80	49.51	-1.39	0.57
Amer Smlr Cos	113.50	117.80	-4.00	..
(Accum Units)	114.70	119.00	-4.60	..
Europe Gth	147.00	152.20	-3.40	...
(Accum Units)	152.00	157.40	-3.60	...
Euro Smaller Cos	27.38	28.42	+0.50	..
French Growth	72.95	75.72†	+2.55	0.35
(Accum Units)	78.26	81.23†	+2.73	0.35
H Kong & China	72.59	75.34†	-6.27	1.98
Intl Growth	54.94	57.02	-0.93	0.69
(Accum Units)	55.40	57.50	+1.01	0.69
Japan Gth	31.16	32.34	-0.18	..
Accum Units	31.16	32.34	-0.18	..
Japan Smaller Cos	38.65	39.50	-0.76	..
Glob Emg Mkts	90.91	94.36	+0.85	..
Accum Units	91.56	95.03	+0.85	..
SE Asia	299.80	311.18	+12.40	0.50
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond	52.31	53.69	+0.75	6.02
Cont Euro Gth	62.31	65.59	+1.64	0.87
-do- Acc	66.58	70.08	-1.75	0.87
Extra Inc	247.40	263.20	+3.20	4.11
-do- Acc	642.40	683.50	+8.50	4.11
FTSE 100 Inc	95.50	101.60	+1.95	2.81
FTSE 100 Acc	95.50	101.60	+1.95	2.81
German Gth	125.30	131.90	-3.90	0.04
-do- Acc	131.40	138.40	-4.10	0.04
Growth Port	524.10	557.60	+7.90	0.32
-do- Acc	532.80	566.80	+8.00	0.32
Hi Reserve Inc #	97.10	103.30	-1.50	5.91
Hi Reserve Acc #	97.10	103.30	-1.50	5.91
Income	471.90	502.10	+6.30	3.88
-do- Acc	£12.67	£13.48	+17.00	3.88
Income Port	496.30	528.00	+4.70	4.00
-do- Acc	526.60	560.30	+5.13	4.00
Japan Growth	96.23	102.40	-0.90	..
-do- Acc	96.57	102.80	-0.80	..
Master Trust	55.80	59.37	-0.84	1.56
-do- Acc	62.30	66.28	-0.95	1.56
N American Gen	175.20	186.40	+5.80	0.93
-do- Acc	202.30	215.30	+6.60	0.93
NAm Sml Co Rec	134.90	143.60	+6.70	..
-do- Acc	137.70	146.50	-6.80	..
Pacific Basin	234.80	249.80	+8.20	0.74
-do- Acc	249.50	265.50	+8.80	0.74
Small Cos Rec	339.60	357.50	-0.40	2.12
-do- Acc	454.10	478.00	-0.70	2.12
UK Growth	80.98	86.15	+0.05	2.62
-do- Acc	98.45	104.80	+0.20	2.62
Worldwide Gth	295.10	314.00	+3.20	0.56
-do- Acc	435.30	463.10	+4.60	0.56
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
0392 282 673				
American	63.11	67.70	+2.64	0.10
General	82.31	88.32	+1.40	2.60
Income	63.02	67.61	+0.80	5.50
International	60.36	64.75	+1.40	0.50
Japan	54.96	58.96	-0.01	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	64.10	68.77	+1.13	1.40
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 0345 390 390				
Amer & General	379.60	401.40†	+11.60	0.78
(Accum Units)	473.00	500.20	+14.70	0.78
Amer Recovery	440.90	466.30	+13.70	0.56
(Accum Units)	505.90	535.10	+15.80	0.56
Amer Smlr Cos	130.30	137.80†	+4.90	..
(Accum Units)	133.10	140.80	+5.00	..
Australasian	148.80	155.30	-1.90	2.26
(Accum Units)	177.90	188.10	-2.10	2.26
Capital	795.30	838.90	+11.40	2.70
(Accum Units)	901.30	953.10	-13.00	2.70
Charifund	656.50	663.10†	-12.20	5.68
(Accum Units)	£30.64	£30.94	-56.70	5.68
Commodity	366.40	387.50†	+4.60	0.39
(Accum Units)	537.90	568.80	+7.40	0.39
Compound Gwth	900.70	952.50	+13.30	3.03
(Accum Units)	944.10	998.40	+13.90	3.03
Dividend	37.90	40.10	-0.73	4.60
(Accum Units)	159.00	168.60	+3.00	4.60
Equity Income	331.80	350.90	-2.10	5.02
(Accum Units)	422.30	446.60	-2.70	5.02
Euro & General	484.50	512.40	+11.50	1.12
(Accum Units)	612.90	648.10	+14.50	1.12
Euro Dividend	67.10	71.00†	+1.50	3.73
(Accum Units)	80.80	85.50	+1.80	3.73
Extra Yield	403.10	423.10	-8.20	4.80
(Accum Units)	£12.41	£13.13	-25.40	4.80
Far Eastern	332.90	352.00	-13.30	0.95
(Accum Units)	441.00	466.30	+17.60	0.95
Fund of Inv Tsts	575.00	608.10	+9.40	2.13
(Accum Units)	£10.74	£11.35	+17.60	2.13
General	58.20	61.50†	+1.20	3.65
(Accum Units)	163.50	173.00	-3.50	3.65
Gilt Income	59.33	59.44	+0.41	9.05
(Accum Units)	162.70	163.00	-1.13	9.05
Gold	59.00	62.40†	-0.10	1.19
(Accum Units)	69.70	73.70	-0.20	1.19
High Income	27.10	28.70	+0.50	4.87
(Accum Units)	108.90	115.20	+2.60	4.87
Intl Growth	72.50	76.70†	+1.50	1.07
(Accum Units)	126.60	133.80	-2.50	1.07
International Inc	94.60	100.00	+2.01	4.63
(Accum Units)	140.40	148.40	+2.90	4.63
Japan & Gen	44.00	46.50	-0.30	..
(Accum Units)	47.20	49.90	-0.30	..
Japan Smlr Cos	156.20	165.20	-0.90	..
(Accum Units)	157.30	166.30	-1.00	..
Managed Income	26.50	27.80†	-0.40	4.66
Midland	58.80	62.20	..	3.23
(Accum Units)	196.50	207.90	..	3.23
Pension Ex	891.70	914.00	+18.90	4.47
Recovery	39.10	41.40	+0.60	2.82
(Accum Units)	64.20	68.10	+1.10	2.82
Second General	66.70	70.50†	+1.60	3.58
(Accum Units)	173.20	183.00	+4.00	3.58
Smaller Cos	66.00	69.80	-0.10	3.25
(Accum Units)	129.60	137.03	-0.10	3.25
Sterling Hi Int	24.16	24.19†	-0.14	8.57
Treasury	25.06	25.10†	+0.02	5.30
Trustee	37.70	42.00	-0.80	4.60
(Accum Units)	160.00	169.40	+3.10	4.60
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0277 261 010 Enq: 0903 204 631				
European Growth	78.69	83.71	-2.36	1.02
Intl Bond	61.13	64.27	-0.95	6.05
Intl Equity Growth	67.51	71.78	-1.56	0.73
N Amer Growth	83.83	89.76	-3.11	1.00
Special Sits Growth	20.43	21.73	-0.21	1.75
FT-SE 100 Acc	52.25	54.71†	-1.24	3.23
FT-SE 100 Dist	51.45	53.67†	+1.22	3.23
Gilt & Fxd Int	53.12	55.28	-0.32	7.10
(Accum Units)	152.50	158.50	-0.90	7.10
High Yield	214.20	224.30	+2.40	5.78
(Accum Units)	536.63	561.80	+6.00	5.78
Income	271.30	284.60†	-4.80	3.70
(Accum Units)	599.50	627.70†	-10.60	3.70
Money Market UT	49.27	49.27†	+0.04	5.45
(Accum Units)	77.62	77.62†	+0.07	5.45
Monthly Income	82.64	86.52†	+1.08	6.12
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
Britain	97.85	104.10	+2.20	1.89
European Growth	101.70	107.60	+1.60	0.02
Gilt & Fixed	83.65	88.77	+0.52	6.25
Income	81.23	86.59	+1.45	2.95
Japan Growth	50.46	53.49	+0.42	..
Managed	66.52	70.77	+0.91	2.48
Money Market	86.81	92.01	+0.09	4.37
North American	86.87	92.09	+2.44	0.49
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	88.87	94.54	+2.02	1.87
European Growth	95.69	101.40	+1.51	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	79.76	84.84	+0.49	6.21
Income	79.97	85.07	+1.42	3.02
Japan Growth	50.37	53.39	+0.42	..
Managed	63.64	67.70	+0.87	2.46
Money Market	80.26	85.07	+0.09	4.32
North American	79.18	83.93	+2.19	0.56
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	88.84	94.51	+2.02	1.86
European Growth	93.43	99.03	+1.50	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	73.01	77.47	+0.43	6.37
Income	78.97	84.01	+1.41	3.04
Japan Growth	51.54	54.64	+0.43	..
Managed	66.42	70.66	+0.91	2.45
Money Market	74.79	79.28	+0.07	4.39
North American	87.69	92.95	+2.44	0.45
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD				
071 407 5966				
International (US$)	12.25	12.82	+0.36	.
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers: 071 826 0826 Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gwth	338.90	360.00†	+13.10	..
European Gth Inc	441.20	472.70†	+2.90	0.29
(Accum Units)	446.00	477.80†	+2.90	0.29
Intl Gwth	189.83	201.20	+2.60	..
UK Equity Inc	175.90	187.30	+2.90	3.20
UK Ind Trckr Inc	151.82	162.40	+2.90	2.76
(Accum Units)	180.20	192.80	+3.40	2.76
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	197.90	209.40	+6.00	1.54
Japan Tracker	73.15	77.48	+0.14	..
Asian Tracker	192.70	206.30	+10.90	0.30
Managed Inc	149.40	159.30†	+2.10	1.47
Deposit Inc	99.80	99.80†	+0.20	5.30
Europa	173.10	186.30	+2.20	0.28
Genesis	148.90	163.40	-0.60	2.23
High Income	21.42	22.72†	-0.26	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 090 539				
Acumen	90.88	92.86	-1.52	2.44
Acumen Inc	86.52	87.90	-1.45	2.44
Acumen Reserve	82.33	83.15†	-0.45	8.20
-do- Inc	70.69	71.40†	-0.39	8.20
American Growth	149.40	153.80†	+3.00	..
Cash Income	49.55	49.55†	+0.04	5.76
Equity Income #	91.14	93.56	+1.67	4.56
European	68.52	70.54	+1.83	0.06
Smaller Cos	74.31	77.71	-0.38	1.01
Overseas	61.76	63.09†	-0.94	0.52
Global Bond	42.25	42.72†	+0.56	7.09
UK Growth	88.28	91.29	-1.50	1.76
Pacific Growth	98.85	102.60	+6.49	..
Japan Growth	90.44	91.90	+0.33	..
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
Asset Equity	116.54	124.40†	+2.56	2.89
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
081 237 5322				
UK Growth	71.11	75.66	-1.06	2.23
UK Income	103.54	110.25	+2.61	3.98
Higher Income	203.57	216.68†	+4.38	4.94
Smaller Cos	75.29	80.09	-0.28	2.30
International	92.03	97.90	+1.32	1.79
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS				
071 623 4200				
American Dist	99.58	106.53	-2.94	0.13
European Dist	103.30	110.50	-2.50	0.02
Far East Dist	169.00	180.80†	-5.90	..
Global Care Dist	65.97	70.24†	+1.01	1.17
Oseas Dist	389.70	£10.37	-20.70	0.08
(Accum Units)	£12.55	£13.46	-26.90	0.08
UK Dist	329.10	352.00	-7.10	2.33
(Accum Units)	645.90	690.40	+13.50	2.33
UK Extra Inc Dist	72.77	77.76†	-0.78	4.43
Wwide Dist	100.72	107.75	-1.90	0.35
Wwide Inc Dist	57.71	61.72	+1.01	2.62
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER UT MGRS				
Dlg: 0277 690 280 Admin Enq: 0277 690 398				
Europe Inc	62.66	66.13	-1.57	0.48
Fund of Funds Inc	55.71	58.81†	-0.91	0.88
North America Inc	49.60	52.17†	+1.94	0.50
UK Equity Gth Inc	56.12	59.25	-0.93	2.11
(Accum Units)	58.24	61.47	-0.96	2.11
UK General Inc	55.16	58.22	-1.10	2.58
UK Gilt Fd Inc	40.95	43.22†	-0.29	7.28
UK Income Inc	54.60	57.67†	-1.03	3.12
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD				
Price enquiry freephone 0500 33 00 00				
Income	222.20	234.35†	+5.03	3.51
Global	309.54	326.30	+6.67	0.13
General	177.29	187.23†	+3.12	1.82
Bond	123.49	130.47	+2.00	6.34
Growth	116.77	126.36	+2.41	2.43
[illegible]	105.57	112.19		1.90
Bridge Fund	23.31	25.34		2.23
[illegible]	33.45	34.13	-1.68	3.19
Formerly Capital House				
American Gwth Tst	35.14	37.58	+0.43	..
Cash Income	50.50	50.50	+0.05	5.50
European Gwth	38.49	41.05	+0.75	0.16
Income & Gwth Inc	26.03	27.82	+0.51	4.50
Intl Gwth	28.26	30.22	+0.56	0.54
Japan Gwth	25.21	26.96	-0.11	..
Managed Tst Inc	46.04	49.24	+1.00	2.54
Oriental Opps Inc	133.10	142.30	+7.30	...
Property Shares	32.78	35.05	-0.15	0.89
Smaller Cos	29.38	31.42	-1.00	1.75
UK Growth Tst	24.76	26.48	+0.38	3.01
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Global Inc	69.46	74.28	+1.21	1.71
Cap Hse UK Inc	64.39	68.86	+1.30	2.90
Sterling (£)	29.84	30.70		1.76
Foundation	88.10	94.22	+1.56	3.45
German	50.48	53.74	+1.45	..
High Income	71.49	76.45	+1.45	6.40
Mngd Ptflo Inc	101.70	108.70		1.07
Mngd Ptflo Acc	194.40	207.90		1.07
Monthly Income	75.06	80.27	+0.64	4.48
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS				
0603 682 234				
Master Trust	117.59	124.08	+0.91	2.01
UK Equity	132.54	139.52	+1.67	3.11
UK Equity Income	125.95	132.58	+1.66	3.29
UK Smaller Cos	110.61	116.43†	-1.28	1.83
UK Equity Growth	123.97	130.49	-1.42	2.35
UK Index Trckg	134.61	141.70	+1.33	3.61
Intl Index Trckg	139.74	147.09	-1.33	1.16
International	224.69	236.52	+3.13	0.37
European	190.47	200.49†	+0.65	0.18
Pan European	126.72	133.39	+1.15	1.33
Nth American	169.03	177.93	-4.32	0.27
N Amer Smlr Cos	183.97	193.49†	+1.71	..
Japanese	90.42	95.18	-1.23	..
Pacific	217.93	229.40	+4.29	0.15
South East Asian	240.48	253.14	+9.65	0.42
Intl Bond	127.51	134.28†	+0.65	4.97
Gilt & Convertible	101.32	106.65†	-0.38	6.85
Property	82.07	86.39	-0.82	5.38
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD				
0256 768 888				
European Inc	252.90	271.30	+4.40	.
(Accum Units)	267.69	287.00	+4.50	.
Japan Inc	106.10	113.30	+0.40	.
Nth American Inc	105.30	113.00	+2.50	0.01
Worldwide Inc	152.80	164.40	+1.70	0.44
Hong Kong Inc	124.80	134.00	+10.80	1.76
Swiss Equities Inc	65.45	69.95	+1.52	..
Wwide Bond Inc	60.05	63.56	+0.43	5.42
Emging Asia Inc	207.20	225.00	+7.70	0.28
(Accum Units)	207.90	225.80	+7.80	0.28
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.06	50.06†	+0.04	5.69
Thailand Inc	164.40	177.00	+4.70	1.30
Gold Trust Inc	67.22	73.05	-0.17	0.11
New Zealand Inc	83.95	90.41	-0.45	1.72
Intl Mngd PEP Inc	61.09	65.61	+0.65	1.22
Latin Am Emg Inc	58.98	63.82†	-3.78	0.42
UK All Sh Mtr Inc	56.59	60.72	+1.20	2.56
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustees	74.11	79.28	+0.98	.
Global Portfolio	66.25	70.86	+0.89	.
Global Opps	64.98	69.50	+0.70	..
Marsh Global Gth	61.50	65.22	+0.78	..
AAM Global Equity	51.96	55.07	+0.91	..
CAM Brit Gwth Inc	85.82	92.20	+1.40	..
Temple Equity Inc	41.84	45.70†	+0.78	3.44
Hartley Growth	70.53	74.76	+0.29	0.38
Intl Growth Inc	83.38	89.16	+2.24	0.81
IPS Portfolio Inc	79.21	84.72†	+2.89	...
St Jms Mn Inc Inc	48.47	48.29	+0.36	...
Premier Perfmc Inc	65.22	69.75†	+0.55	1.42
Roxburgh Strat Gth	69.15	73.96	+1.08	..
Tech Analysis	94.81	100.48	+1.78	..
Rosebery Growth	45.84	49.52	+0.64	0.05
International Strat	74.67	79.88	+1.96	0.19
UFC Ind-Act Gth	51.86	55.76	+0.77	..
Coverdale Tmpout	47.89	51.83	+1.13	..
Preml Equity Inc	108.70	114.40		..
Lowes Intl Growth	44.50	46.84	+1.18	0.88
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 0733 470 470				
Equity	231.70	246.50	+4.20	2.73
(Accum Units)	489.20	520.30	+8.80	2.73
Growth	150.40	158.20	+2.60	2.78
Income	229.90	244.60	+4.30	3.88
Intl Equity	241.60	257.00	+5.46	1.17
(Accum Units)	357.10	384.10	+8.00	1.17
UK Income	63.18	67.21†	+1.14	3.47
UK Intl 25	76.63	81.52	+1.37	2.38
New Europe	77.17	82.09	+1.73	0.59
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT				
0491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	569.62	602.81	+8.16	0.18
(Accum Units)	584.20	603.43	+8.17	0.18
Income	339.21	362.80	+4.87	3.42
Wwide Recovery	356.90	381.61	+4.09	0.07
Amer Growth Inc	213.81	228.68†	+2.78	0.01
(Accum Units)	213.81	228.68	+2.78	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	229.74	245.72	+5.46	0.01
Far East Gth Inc	260.72	278.85	+3.16	0.25
(Accum Units)	260.72	278.85	+3.16	0.25
Euro Gwth Inc	138.19	147.80	+2.74	0.73
(Accum Units)	138.95	148.19	+2.75	0.73
UK Growth Inc	86.92	92.97	+1.17	2.86
(Accum Units)	89.04	95.23	+1.19	2.86
High Income	91.77	98.15†	+1.33	4.22
Jap Gwth Inc	211.42	225.25	-1.47	0.01
(Accum Units)	211.42	226.25	-1.47	0.01
PEP Growth	113.02	120.88	+1.99	0.67
Asian Sir Mkts Inc	118.34	126.57†	+6.98	0.01
(Accum Units)	118.34	128.57	+6.98	0.01
Amer Smlr Co Inc	125.00	133.69	+2.78	0.01
(Accum Units)	125.00	133.69	+2.78	0.01
Global Bond	53.50	56.84	+0.48	5.83
UK Smaller Cos Inc	75.30	80.54	-1.37	1.54
(Accum Units)	78.23	83.67	-1.42	1.54
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
091 201 3927				
American	95.26	102.43	+3.93	..
European	69.22	73.64	+1.25	...
Global	59.92	63.74	+1.32	...
Pacific	56.03	59.61	+1.24	..
UK Inc & Grth	61.86	65.81	+0.40	1.99
PONTON YORK UT MGRS				
0533 550 540				
BRI Director Dlgs	86.67	92.30	-3.43	0.35
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 490				
Fund of Funds	151.87	159.86†	+5.30	0.11
Emerg Mkts	45.32	47.70	+3.11	..
PREMIUM LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0444 458 721				
Monthly Income	57.81	61.27	-0.08	2.52
Growth Income	61.89	64.75	...	2.29
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0732 740 700				
Principal Tst	124.92	132.60†	+2.15	1.73
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 071 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 262 443				
American Income	89.08	94.77†	+3.12	3.80
Conv & Gilt	112.00	119.10	+1.20	6.15
European Income	72.10	76.70	+1.51	3.94
Extra Income	143.20	152.40	-0.20	3.89
(Accum Units)	173.69	184.90	-0.20	3.89
Far East	368.10	391.60	+0.70	0.08
(Accum Units)	375.00	399.00	+0.70	0.08
Global Income	24.39	25.95†	+0.35	4.59
High Income	109.50	116.50	+1.80	3.65
(Accum Units)	130.00	138.30	+1.30	3.65
International	193.20	205.50	+3.80	0.66
(Accum Units)	199.10	211.60	+4.00	0.66
Pref & Fxd Int	43.02	45.77†	+0.16	7.91
Recovery	69.43	73.86	+0.83	2.83
Special Sits	101.30	107.80	-2.10	1.16
(Accum Units)	109.70	116.70	-2.30	1.16
Technology	377.10	401.30	+28.70	..
UK Blue Chip	66.29	70.52	+1.47	2.66
(Accum Units)	73.53	78.22	+1.63	2.66
For Providence Capitol see Old Mutual				
PROVIDENT MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
071 588 3963				
Equity Gth	167.10	177.80	+0.40	1.87
European Gth	96.62	102.40	+2.30	0.38
Income & Gth #	128.00	136.20	+1.90	3.26
Japan Gth	114.10	121.20	+0.10	..
Nth Amer Gth	116.50	123.90	+4.40	0.17
Overseas Gth	86.75	92.29	+2.36	.
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
081 478 3377 Client Enq: 071 911 4490				
Managed Tst	35.35	36.83	+0.56	1.90
Cash Haven Inc	100.83	101.32†	-0.02	5.29
Cash Haven Acc	111.36	111.90†	+0.08	5.23
Dist Trust Inc	93.82	97.22†	+1.48	6.16
Dist Trust Acc	97.04	100.55†	+1.54	6.16
Global Growth	85.60	91.06†	+1.74	1.35
Equity Inc	79.27	84.32†	+2.39	3.81
Equity	702.33	747.15	+16.25	2.39
European	209.19	216.77	-6.06	1.10
High Income	86.69	92.22	+1.57	4.93
Intl Gth	175.11	186.28†	+3.81	0.86
Intl Sm Co	74.07	78.79	+1.51	0.48
Japanese	206.00	213.47	-3.15	..
Nth Amer	164.86	170.86	+4.17	1.89
Pacific Mkts	97.20	100.72†	+3.71	0.37
Premier Inc	46.47	48.36†	+0.18	4.93
Sm Cos	84.94	90.36	+2.40	1.55
Spec Sits	103.91	110.54†	+0.86	2.21
UK Growth	117.32	124.80†	+2.99	2.35
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS. LTD				
0892 510 033				
British Life	288.70	308.20	+5.70	3.28
ROCK ASSET MGMT (UNIT TRUST) LTD				
081 395 2595				
Managed	91.51	97.09†	+1.58	2.30
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealers: 071 280 5000				
FA America (Inc)	510.66	543.41	+19.19	0.33
FA America (Acc)	597.01	635.31	+22.45	0.33
FA Uk Equity Inc	151.09	161.05	+3.55	3.60
FA Japan	242.91	258.29	-1.16	..
FA Major UK Cos	91.61	97.70	+2.11	2.34
FA Smlr UK Cos	278.54	303.80	+2.22	1.35
FA European	306.14	325.11	+4.30	0.52
FA Amer Smllr Cos	43.66	46.92	+1.67	..
FA Asia	46.34	49.73	+2.43	..
FA Jap Smllr Cos	45.45	48.67	-0.51	..
RAM Personal Pension				
UK Major Cos	93.19	98.08	+2.14	...
UK Small Cos	80.26	84.48	+0.62	...
UK Income	91.60	96.41	+2.11	...
America	102.56	107.97	+3.61	...
Japanese	53.40	56.20	-0.26	..
European	98.23	103.39	+1.36	...
Gilt	86.20	90.73	+0.29	..
Deposit	83.40	87.79	+0.19	...
Managed	94.90	99.89	+1.96	.
RAM FSAVC Scheme				
Uk Major Cos	90.74	95.51	+2.08	...
Uk Smaller Cos	78.41	82.53	+0.61	...
UK Income	89.37	94.07	+2.06	...
America	99.85	105.10	+3.72	...
Japanese	51.97	54.70	-0.25	..
European	95.71	100.74	+1.33	...
Gilt	85.26	89.74	+0.33	...
Deposit	79.48	83.64	+0.19	..
Managed	89.05	93.73	+1.84	...
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD				
Prices: 0733 282 828 Gen Enq: 0733 390 000				
United States	77.69	83.04	+2.49	0.22
Pacific Basin	73.57	79.31	+1.01	..
High Inc Dist	129.60	138.60	+2.30	5.12
Rnl Life Int Cnvy	57.81	61.47	+0.61	4.27
Syl Life Intl Gwth	64.64	69.03	+1.23	0.029
Pyl Life Intl Spec	61.58	65.50	+1.25	..
UK Emerging Cos	119.70	128.30	-0.10	1.19
UK Index Trckg	155.70	165.90	+2.60	3.42
European	126.10	135.30	+2.30	0.28
Managed	141.10	151.70†	+2.50	0.78
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0206 764 400				
American Growth	143.10	151.30†	+5.00	0.52
European Growth	108.30	114.50	+2.80	0.96
Far East Growth	125.50	133.60†	+9.80	0.49
Japan Growth	127.50	135.50	+0.10	..
Special Sits	186.30	193.90	+1.80	1.64
UK Growth	72.78	77.42	+1.81	2.63
Triton General	228.00	242.60	+5.90	6.80
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD				
041 307 6500				
Far East Inc	155.20	164.20	+5.60	0.59
Gr Euro Prog Inc	334.20	353.70	+6.60	0.59
(Accum Units)	519.70	549.90	+10.20	0.59
Growth Inc	130.10	137.70	+1.80	0.58
(Accum Units)	132.60	140.30	+2.00	0.58
International Inc	334.10	353.50	+6.10	0.48
(Accum Units)	458.20	484.90	+8.40	0.48
Nth Am & Intl Inc	312.40	331.60	+6.90	1.15
UK Gen Prog Inc	216.80	229.40	+3.60	1.29
UK High Inc Inc	126.10	133.40	+2.60	3.86
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD				
071 330 0572				
American Gwth	61.09	64.99	+1.51	..
Amer Smllr Cos	72.90	77.55	+1.55	..
Asian Gwth	108.05	114.94	+5.05	0.75
European Gwth	66.43	70.66	+1.97	1.00
Global Bd	58.92	62.28	+0.81	5.00
Global Eq	58.16	61.87	+1.30	0.50
Japanese Eq	49.68	52.86	-0.05	..
Japan Sm Cos	57.38	61.04	-0.15	..
UK Gen	51.38	54.66	+1.00	2.80
UK Gwth	57.37	61.03	+0.78	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
0708 786 966				
Amer Inc & Gwth #	67.76	72.09	+2.97	4.16
Amer Smlr Cos	108.30	115.20†	+3.70	...
Asian Smaller Cos	41.99	44.67	+0.78	..
Capital Portfolio	123.20	131.10	+2.40	1.96
Cash	126.00	126.00	+0.10	5.89
China Dragon	55.18	58.71	+4.44	0.83
Commodity	117.50	125.00	-2.00	0.40
Eastern Discovery	92.93	98.86	+2.89	..
Emerging Mkts	36.79	39.14	+0.85	0.40
Energy Inds	116.40	123.80†	+3.80	0.79
European Gwth	183.20	194.90	+3.90	..
Euro Inc & Gwth #	75.67	80.50†	+1.96	1.23
Euro Smlr Cos	51.53	54.82	+0.86	..
Extra Income #	50.04	51.68†	+0.58	6.11
Financial Secs	193.40	205.70	+3.10	1.70
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc #	48.15	50.82	+0.26	8.92
Gold & Exploration	72.35	76.97†	-1.81	..
High Return #	216.40	230.20†	+3.00	4.42
High Yield #	219.30	233.30	+2.70	4.02
Income #	113.60	120.80†	+1.60	4.85
Intl Bond	161.40	170.50	+2.20	5.75
ITU	196.70	209.30	+3.80	1.61
Japan Growth	165.80	177.40	-0.30	..
Japan Smaller	170.30	181.10	-4.70	..
Korea	64.25	68.36	+2.90	..
Masterfund	52.80	56.17	+0.47	1.29
Scotbits	280.60	300.10†	+5.20	1.47
Scotshares #	278.30	296.10	+4.00	2.52
Scotyields #	231.00	245.70	+3.10	3.84
Select Intl	134.70	143.30	+2.10	0.38
Smaller Cos Inc #	233.00	247.90	-1.30	3.67
SE Asia	52.27	55.61	+3.32	..
Special Situation	120.20	127.90	+1.40	1.02
UK Equity #	233.10	248.00†	+3.00	3.02
UK Growth	61.98	65.94	+0.79	1.51
UK & O'seas	157.30	167.30	+2.80	1.29
UK Smllr Cos Gwth	44.13	46.95†	-0.32	0.98
US Growth	146.40	155.70	+4.90	0.45
Univ Growth	134.60	143.20	+1.89	0.72
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Clnt: 0800 526 535 Bdc: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	246.67	264.45	+1.89	0.98
(Accum Units)	271.61	288.65	+1.85	0.98
European Gwth	73.44	77.96	+1.83	0.83
Euro Smllr Cos	76.30	81.28	+1.46	0.30
Far Eastern Gth	91.60	97.70†	+4.43	...
(Accum Units)	93.25	99.47	+4.51	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	50.39	53.12	+0.28	7.18
Global Bond #	48.47	50.09†	+0.78	6.97
(Accum Units) #	53.26	55.04	+0.63	6.97
Global Emer Mkts	49.98	53.31	+1.44	..
(Accum Units)	49.98	53.31	+1.44	..
Income	340.21	362.89	+7.25	4.14
(Accum Units)	£10.60	£11.30	+22.61	4.14
Japan Smllr Cos	455.95	486.34†	-2.56	..
(Accum Units)	456.86	487.31	-2.57	..
Japan Enterprise	64.04	68.30	-0.51	...
Pacific Gwth	124.07	132.34†	+7.05	..
(Accum Units)	128.08	136.61	+7.28	..
Portfolio	77.33	82.27†	+1.53	2.84
(Accum Units)	83.79	89.37	+1.67	2.84
Seoul	47.46	51.09	+0.86	..
(Accum Units)	47.46	51.09	+0.86	..
Smaller Cos	202.60	216.31	-0.60	1.42
Tokyo	118.18	123.98	+0.84	..
(Accum Units)	117.33	125.15	+0.84	..
UK Enterprise	240.83	256.88†	+5.48	2.12
(Accum Units)	288.90	308.18	+6.55	2.12
UK Equity	230.51	245.87†	+4.29	2.84
(Accum Units)	447.91	477.77	+8.29	2.84
US Smllr Cos	158.71	169.29	+3.64	..
(Accum Units)	45.21	48.13	+0.95	0.65
Institutional Funds				
European	233.32	242.27†	+5.68	1.15
(Accum Units)	259.26	269.20	+6.30	1.15
Euro Smllr Cos	22.20	23.37	+0.60	1.48
(Accum Units)	29.92	31.15	+0.84	1.48
Global Equity Inc	74.92	78.04	+1.57	0.93
Japan Smllr Cos	36.85	38.39†	+0.14	..
(Accum Units)	37.14	38.67	+0.13	..
Mngd Balanced	181.31	188.86	+3.50	2.73
(Accum Units)	204.55	213.07	+3.85	2.73
Overseas Equity	181.80	189.37†	+4.88	1.21
(Accum Units)	188.24	196.08	+5.05	1.21
Ocean Smllr Cos	121.20	126.26	+3.10	0.72
(Accum Units)	126.41	131.66	+3.23	0.72
Pacific	234.67	244.44	+10.73	1.17
(Accum Units)	256.07	266.73	+11.71	1.17
Recovery	£17.39	£18.06†	+24.94	3.03
(Accum Units)	£18.33	£19.09	+26.32	3.03
UK Index	148.80	155.00	+2.83	3.45
(Accum Units)	181.55	189.09	+3.46	3.45
UK Small Cos	108.34	112.85	+2.03	2.82
(Accum Units)	114.82	119.60	+2.05	2.82
US Smllr Cos	45.40	47.29	+0.93	0.65
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD				
041 204 2200				
Equity Income	48.17	51.30	+0.78	3.72
Equity Trust	58.71	62.53	+1.04	3.19
Equity Strategy	68.08	72.51	+1.19	1.30
European Opps	85.25	90.79	+2.89	0.32
UK Smaller Cos	59.76	63.60	-0.16	1.35
Maximum Inc	97.89	100.42	+0.09	6.71
Japanese	73.18	77.84	-0.48	..
Asia Pacific	114.86	122.11	+5.09	1.26
American	98.38	104.78	+2.80	0.72
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD				
0800 454 422				
Cash	30.92	30.92	+0.02	5.333
UK General Inc	49.80	53.12	+0.83	2.84
(Accum Units)	63.96	68.22	+1.06	2.84
Intl Income	257.70	274.10†	+3.00	1.01
(Accum Units)	442.30	470.60†	+5.20	1.01
European	77.89	82.65	+1.71	1.47
Japan	65.80	69.74	-0.01	0.05
American	65.96	69.81†	+2.11	1.92
Far East	81.79	87.21	+3.33	0.78
Ethical Inc	28.38	30.28†	+0.29	2.15
UK Blue Chip Inc	32.22	34.46†	+0.56	2.86
High Inc Inc	34.51	36.81	+0.70	3.44
UK Global Inc	38.14	40.65†	+3.33	1.57
Wwide Tact	67.78	72.28†	+0.46	1.25
Europe 3000 Tact	51.69	54.97	+1.26	1.51
Technology	104.45	111.12†	+3.28	1.51
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
031 225 2211				
UK Equity	369.29	394.30	+9.60	2.93
American	255.10	271.00	+9.00	0.59
Pacific	362.80	388.00	+11.70	0.72
European	537.70	575.10	+13.73	1.27
Worldwide	84.56	90.44	-2.30	0.56
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD				
041 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	258.50	275.00	+4.70	2.08
(Accum Units)	326.20	347.10†	+5.90	2.08
UK Sr Co Eq Inc	187.80	199.80†	+0.30	2.37
(Accum Units)	225.10	239.50†	+1.10	2.37
Select Opportiy Inc	63.58	68.00	+0.96	1.96
Income Plus Inc	68.68	73.07	+1.94	4.25
European Inc	338.20	359.80	+8.50	0.48
(Accum Units)	382.00	406.40	+9.60	0.48
Far Eastern Inc	165.80	176.40	+6.70	0.79
(Accum Units)	188.70	200.80	+7.70	0.79
Japanese Inc	58.53	62.27	+0.72	..
Nth American Inc	237.80	252.80	+8.20	0.60
(Accum Units)	261.60	278.30	+11.70	0.60
Intl Growth Inc	193.90	208.30†	+5.00	0.62
Wwide Venture Inc	76.13	80.99	-1.06	0.76
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT				
031 668 3724				
Equity Inc	349.90	372.10	+6.90	2.86
(Accum Units)	511.80	545.70	+10.00	2.86
UK High Inc	176.10	187.80	+3.50	3.83
(Accum Units)	254.30	271.20	+5.10	3.83
Europe Inc	356.20	379.90	+8.40	0.27
Nth Amer Inc	215.20	229.56	+8.30	..
Global Inc	195.00	209.00	+5.30	0.25
UK Spec Sits Inc	92.59	98.74	+0.88	3.13
South East Asia	213.50	227.70	+13.70	0.78
Cash Trust Inc	100.70	100.70	..	5.70
UK Smlr Cos Inc	95.59	101.90	-0.30	2.13
(Accum Units)	97.71	104.20	-0.30	2.13
Intl Bond Inc	88.84	94.11	+1.52	6.16
SEMPER EADEM FUND MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
Sector Recovery	142.20	149.40†	-0.40	4.46
SHARP (ALBERT E)				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
European	122.80	129.30†	+2.90	0.66
Nth American	109.70	109.28†	+4.20	0.89
Intl Bond & Conv	120.00	126.30	+1.60	4.81
Pooled Pension (£)	176.20	189.50	+3.70	2.28
Smaller Cos	70.22	73.92	+0.16	1.43
UK General	124.00	130.50	+2.30	2.19
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
071 626 6226				
Amer Gth Fund‡	101.80	...	+2.36	...
Aztec‡	72.08	...	-0.65	...
European‡	120.80	...	+1.18	...
Global Bond‡	94.34	...	+0.53	7.63
Samurai‡	67.79	...	-2.68	...
UK Growth‡	98.48	...	+1.37	2.78
Tal Port‡	99.28	...	+3.24	..
UK Emerg Leaders‡	97.68	...	-0.42	1.45
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS				
071 637 5377				
American	302.00	318.60†	+12.48	..
Canadian	63.80	67.51	+1.96	0.99
Capital	117.60	125.90†	+2.40	1.57
Cash	101.50	101.60	+0.08	6.15
European	130.80	138.40	+3.48	0.73
Far Eastern	147.10	155.60	+6.40	..
Growth	128.30	135.70†	+3.00	0.99
Income	123.90	131.80	+1.60	5.91
Magnum	126.50	135.40	+2.50	1.59
Smlr Secs	359.80	380.50	+3.20	1.25
Thoroughbred	145.90	157.40†	+2.80	1.44
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0202 298 422				
Cash	50.09	50.59	+0.04	5.80
Cntrld Pdmnce	53.41	56.97†	+0.68	6.10
Ethical	53.25	56.65	+0.84	3.00
European Growth	72.28	77.10	+1.79	2.83
Income	52.60	56.10	-0.88	5.90
Intl Growth	96.38	102.80	+1.90	3.00
Managed	80.46	85.82	-1.56	3.80
UK Growth	59.19	63.13†	+1.20	3.50
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS				
0800 393 777				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	36.90	39.12†	+0.75	1.84
Global Advtg Acc	39.57	41.95	+0.81	1.84
Income Advtg Inc	30.60	32.44	+0.65	4.11
Income Advtg Acc	33.58	35.60	+0.70	4.11
UK Equity Gth Acc	62.25	65.99	+0.95	1.53
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
Managed Acc	49.01	52.08	+1.18	1.69
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	35.07	37.27	+0.81	4.08
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	43.44	46.16	+1.09	4.08
UK Equity Gen Acc	50.76	53.92	+1.17	2.34
UK Equity Gen Inc	44.49	47.28	+0.86	2.34
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	30.18	31.93	+0.20	6.20
Quant Lrg Co Acc	301.18	320.80	+8.59	1.71
Nth American Acc	44.41	47.19	+2.17	0.86
Far East Acc	64.86	68.92	+2.45	0.25
European Acc	51.75	54.98	+1.81	0.91
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD				
071 344 7000				
Global A (US$)	3.834	3.859	+0.02	0.58
US Eqtc (US$)	2.403	2.551	+0.07	0.70
Far East Eqts (yen)	228.40	242.60	+10.60	...
Japan Eqties (yen)	214.90	228.30	-18.10	..
FT Europe	123.00	130.60	+3.00	1.55
FT N Amer (US$)	1.828	1.937	+0.04	0.85
FT Japan (yen)	212.10	225.30	-6.89	..
FT Asia Exjap (US$)	2.292	2.435	+0.13	1.65
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
031 226 3271				
American	369.20	393.20	+14.10	..
British #	965.80	£10.21	+11.70	4.22
Emging Mkts	138.10	147.10	+1.29	..
European	509.80	544.30	+7.70	0.63
Japan	139.80	148.30	-0.90	..
New Pacific	365.40	390.60	+9.00	0.75
(Accum Units)	385.10	411.70	+9.58	0.75
Inv Trust Acc	246.10	260.80	+5.00	0.93
Mngd Equity	165.80	175.40	+2.00	1.45
Mngd Cash	95.77	95.77	+0.08	5.40
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 389				
Equity	788.00	842.80†	+11.90	2.92
North America	122.40	130.90†	+3.70	1.12
Far East	137.60	147.20†	+4.50	0.16
Wwide Bond	55.87	59.42	+0.93	5.07
European	102.30	109.40	+1.90	..
Equity Income	86.76	92.79	+1.63	4.08
Portfolio	82.83	88.59	+1.59	1.21
UK Leading Cos	58.49	62.39	+1.35	2.94
Broker Trusts				
Intl Equity	63.54	67.95	+0.92	..
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD				
0800 525 725				
American Growth	33.49	35.82	+1.14	0.83
Managed Assets	123.10	131.69†	+2.70	2.85
UK Income	39.48	42.23	+1.00	3.38
UK Growth	37.93	40.57	+0.88	2.63
Worldwide Growth	34.26	36.65	+0.83	0.82
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD				
Admin & Enq: 071 606 4044 Dlg: 071 606 6010				
Discretionary	46.60	49.56	-0.44	..
Cap Protector Inc	41.52	44.51	+0.61	2.68
UK Income Inc	48.85	52.33†	+1.17	3.17
Mngd Euro Inc Inc	32.14	34.37†	+0.48	3.67
Mngd High Yld Inc	77.05	82.41	+1.69	4.21
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	72.31	77.34	+1.68	3.36
UK Smaller Cos	32.43	34.67	-0.29	1.90
Pacific Gth Port	44.09	47.16†	+1.35	0.38
TSB UNIT TRUSTS				
0264 346 794				
American	204.46	218.36	+7.10	...
(Accum Units)	225.20	238.31	+7.82	..
Brit Growth	92.80	98.21	+1.80	2.19
(Accum Units)	111.88	118.18	+2.28	2.19
European	101.94	107.87†	+1.85	0.61
(Accum Units)	108.40	114.71†	+1.97	0.61
Extra Income	187.24	198.14	+3.80	4.39
(Accum Units)	317.73	336.22	+6.45	4.39
Smaller Cos	67.47	71.40	-0.03	1.70
(Accum Units)	75.68	80.09	-0.03	1.70
General	269.45	285.13†	+5.64	2.49
(Accum Units)	557.74	590.20	+11.61	2.49
Premier Income	47.92	49.91†	+0.52	6.44
(Accum Units)	109.48	114.04†	+1.20	6.44
Income	318.95	337.52	+5.29	4.06
(Accum Units)	699.35	740.05	+11.59	4.06
Pacific	386.99	411.93	+7.43	..
(Accum Units)	408.73	432.52	+7.81	..
International	512.47	542.28	-10.97	0.28
(Accum Units)	673.86	713.08	+14.43	0.29
Nat Resources	146.58	155.12	-0.28	..
Spcl Opps	101.38	107.28	+1.65	1.53
(Accum Units)	129.06	136.57	+2.09	1.53
Environmental Inv	60.39	63.90†	+0.87	1.98
Selector	59.72	63.19	+0.91	2.39
(Accum Units)	67.36	71.28	+1.03	2.30
High Income	62.15	65.77†	+1.18	4.77
(Accum Units)	79.18	83.79†	+1.50	4.77
Intl Income	57.23	60.57	+0.90	5.01
(Accum Units)	70.37	74.46	+1.10	5.01
Selector Income	59.14	62.58	+0.98	4.90
(Accum Units)	69.45	73.49	+1.15	4.90
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED				
081 667 1016				
British	315.40	332.00	+4.60	2.81
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	197.88	211.63†	+1.87	1.52
Glob Balanced Inc	168.63	180.35	+2.04	3.17
Value Tst Inc	118.15	126.37	+2.12	1.57
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
071 246 3000 Dealing: 071 246 3001				
Dresdner Eur Bd	40.38	42.40	+0.52	6.10
European Growth	268.01	284.35	+9.82	0.90
Exempt	511.46	534.31†	+8.19	3.60
Global Em Mkts	83.66	88.55	+1.84	0.80
Japan Tst	74.78	79.47	-0.59	..
Little Dragons	84.57	90.20	+3.07	..
Nth Amer Gwth	228.50	243.27†	+6.53	0.70
Oriental Income	43.43	46.32	+1.34	1.56
Preference	125.69	134.42	+0.63	8.70
Tiger	265.08	282.73	+12.46	..
(Accum Units)	278.46	297.02	+13.10	..
UK Blue Chip	60.15	64.15†	+1.35	3.16
UK Growth	488.82	522.80†	+10.10	2.30
UK High Yield	99.25	106.14†	+1.94	3.60
(Accum Units)	322.04	344.42†	+6.32	3.60
UK Mid-Cap	240.62	257.34	+3.99	2.10
UK Smlr Cos	97.19	103.94	+0.36	1.10
UK Smlr Cos Div	85.73	91.69†	-0.65	5.30
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD				
0277 690 336				
UK Equity Income	95.80	101.80†	+1.38	3.16
UK Equity Growth	84.73	90.14	+0.97	2.43
European	68.67	73.05	+1.73	0.69
Nth American	67.81	72.14	+1.93	1.09
Far Eastern	67.80	72.13	+0.51	0.79
Money	87.18	87.18†	+0.05	4.02
Fixed Interest	70.89	75.42†	+0.35	6.51
Index Linked Gilt	64.70	68.83	+0.27	1.33
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
031 225 1551				
Australian Gold	24.87	26.45	-1.02	..
Pacific Basin	42.49	45.20	+0.10	..
Global Bond (US$)	0.85	0.89	+0.00	..
Penny Share	32.75	34.83	+0.61	...
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 600 0462				
Challenger	93.85	98.12	+0.46	...
Short Dtd Gilt	110.70	112.20	+0.30	..
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.73	0.74	+0.00	6.64
Gilt Income	49.58	51.31	+0.27	7.75
Gilt Growth	69.76	72.83	+0.41	..
Cty Reserve	52.05	52.05†	+0.03	5.62
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
081 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	47.70	50.41	+0.41	1.27
UK Stockmarket	76.03	80.87	+1.38	2.60

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital; @ Exit Charge.

Registration closes Tuesday, 14 February.

THE POWER ISSUE SHARE IN IT

Share Offer

ISSUED BY HM TREASURY AND APPROVED BY KLEINWORT BENSON LIMITED AND BARCLAYS DE ZOETE WEDD LIMITED. MEMBERS OF SFA. ANY APPLICATION FOR SHARES SHOULD BE BASED ON THE PROSPECTUS ALONE.

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
071 581 3020				
American Cap	133.10	141.50	+4.10	..
Income	141.35	150.37†	+2.03	3.98
UK Growth	51.94	55.25†	-0.79	0.97
International	72.05	76.63†	+0.88	0.39
Ecology	76.53	81.41	+0.99	1.32
European	118.74	126.08	+2.87	...
Far Eastern	281.80	299.70	+4.80	...
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 071 956 7854				
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	48.53	51.63	+1.14	7.46
Gilt Yield	112.70	118.80	+0.30	8.74
Global Income	200.90	213.70†	+2.10	4.23
High Yield	132.80	141.30†	+3.50	6.26
(Accum Units)	401.50	427.10†	+10.40	6.26
Smlr Cos Div	48.51	51.61†	-0.40	3.25
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	86.49	92.01†	+2.92	..
North American	75.30	80.11	+2.84	0.16
European Special	105.00	111.70	+0.30	0.13
European	148.80	158.30	+3.80	0.38
(Accum Units)	195.40	207.90	+5.00	0.38
General	262.10	278.80†	+4.90	3.25
Japan	383.20	407.80	-3.40	..
Japanese Special	222.20	236.40	-4.20	..
Master Accum	226.10	240.50	+0.30	0.57
Pacific	309.60	329.40	+5.70	..
(Accum Units)	363.10	386.30	-6.60	..
Smaller Cos	102.60	109.10	-1.00	0.63
UK Equity Growth	36.80	39.15†	+0.16	1.86
KNIGHT WILLIAMS PRTFOL MGRS				
071 629 1993				
Global Inc & Gth	59.35	63.13	+1.23	..
Inv Trust	63.21	67.24	+0.97	..
Cautious Inc/Gth	56.49	60.09	+1.03	1.50
High Inc Acc	54.25	57.71	+0.49	3.90
L & C UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 588 2800				
Income	546.30	557.40†	+2.90	6.33
Intl & General	386.69	396.59†	+9.60	0.01
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
071 407 5966				
Bridge Income	253.80	269.79	+3.82	5.58
Inc & Growth Inc	53.92	57.36†	+1.24	4.72
Smaller Cos	53.39	56.80	+0.52	1.44
LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0452 371 500 Dlg: 0452 371 623				
Growth Trust	234.50	249.20	+3.30	2.18
High Income	104.50	111.10†	+2.40	4.35
International	95.20	101.30	+3.07	0.60
Recovery Trust	60.50	64.36	+1.72	1.58
European Trust	79.53	84.60	+1.66	1.03
Japanese Trust	41.56	44.21†	-0.16	..
American Trust	85.43	90.88	+3.37	..
Managed	64.64	68.76	+1.34	0.55
Cash	51.33	51.38	+0.03	5.29
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
071 374 0916				
UK Cap	346.20	351.90†	+5.50	2.61
UK Inc/Gth	369.30	374.40†	+6.70	3.46
UK Income	259.60	264.30†	+5.90	4.41
UK Sm Cos	223.10	232.20†	-0.30	2.10
Euro Gwth	121.90	122.80	+3.00	..
N Amer Gwth	80.80	81.67	+3.46	0.11
Japan Growth	61.70	62.32	-0.57	..
Money Mkt	122.14	122.14	+0.22	1.510
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 395				
Equity Dist	454.10	483.10	+10.30	2.71
(Accum Units)	893.30	950.30	+20.20	2.71
Equity Income	93.04	98.98†	+1.54	4.13
UK Tactical Allocn	54.36	57.72	+1.39	3.08
European	113.10	120.30†	+3.40	0.98
Far Eastern	211.10	224.60	+5.00	..
Fixed Interest	50.47	53.69	+0.37	6.82
Gilt	87.03	92.29	+0.51	8.67
Global Growth	72.17	76.78	+1.75	0.10
Intl Bond	50.35	53.52†	-0.29	5.27
Japanese	68.15	72.50	-0.28	..
North American	143.80	153.00†	+4.70	1.03
Pacific Growth	104.39	111.00	+4.10	0.19
UK Index	60.16	63.49	+1.41	3.18
UK Recovery	86.70	92.23	+1.59	1.82
UK Smaller Cos	114.60	121.90†	-0.30	1.55
US Index	58.45	62.74	+1.81	1.80
European Index	72.89	78.72†	+2.12	1.55
Japan Index	39.89	42.10	-0.05	..
Worldwide	79.85	84.95	+1.38	1.41
LINCOLN NATIONAL				
081 802 8878 Dealing: 0800 262 621				
Growth	48.11	51.69†	+1.42	2.13
Income	58.80	60.92†	+1.42	3.06
Far East	50.01	53.49	+0.86	..
North American	90.21	96.55	+4.18	..
Global	87.90	93.05	+1.74	0.16
European	84.34	90.20	+1.94	1.45
Japan	101.60	108.70	-0.50	..
Intl Currency Bd	58.78	60.23	+0.63	4.98
SE Asia	98.56	105.40	+3.30	..
UK Cap Growth	88.53	94.66	+1.61	1.37
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk: 0634 834 330 Dealing: 0634 834 313				
Balanced	329.80	350.90	+5.50	2.95
-do- Acc	750.00	797.90	+12.50	2.95
UK Growth	355.50	378.10	+5.90	2.93
(Accum Units)	463.70	493.20	+7.70	2.93
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01629 825867				
Balanced Fd #	£12.45	£12.68	+21.70	3.20
Income #	937.80	952.50†	+13.80	4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 222 4242				
Maldon General	134.80	138.90	.	4.39
MANULIFE MANAGEMENT LTD				
Dealings: 0438 747 414				
Growth Units	191.50	204.80	+4.40	2.47
Gilt & Fxd Inc	168.10	177.10	+0.90	6.81
Intl Growth	200.40	213.70	+4.10	0.29
North American	179.50	191.80	+4.30	0.81
Far East	254.60	272.30	+12.00	1.19
UK Smaller Cos	164.90	178.30	-0.50	1.73
European	79.78	84.76	+1.85	0.12
Japanese Growth	45.49	48.46	-0.14	..
High Income	182.70	195.40	+4.50	4.29
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0244 680 066				
M & S Inv Ptflo	145.30	152.90	+2.80	2.28
-do- Accum	167.20	176.00	+3.00	2.28
UK Sel Ptflo	124.80	131.30	+2.50	2.53
-do- Accum	145.00	152.60	+2.90	2.53
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
0204 364 842				
Managed Tst	64.72	68.85	+1.58	3.97
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
031 479 4848				
Intl Income	68.24	72.44	+1.04	4.48
European	78.75	83.60†	+2.42	0.40
Income #	70.04	74.35†	+1.09	6.02
Nth American	61.71	65.51	+2.36	0.57
Far East	156.10	165.70	+3.80	..
Japan	51.63	54.81	-0.17	..
Emrging Mkts	90.22	98.48†	+0.08	..
Intl Growth	102.58	108.80	+1.90	0.77
UK Growth	84.93	90.16	+0.38	1.18
UK Smlr Co	44.05	46.76	+0.10	1.01
Asian Opps Fd	36.08	38.59	+1.75	0.35
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
071 407 5966				
Income	404.84	430.68	+11.91	4.15
Global Inc	67.60	71.91	+1.43	2.86
Brit Leaders	340.84	362.38	+9.48	2.47
Intl Leaders	197.90	210.53	+5.62	0.78
PAM Mgr Bal Gth	60.27	62.62	+0.90	0.88
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 071 280 2060				
American	195.20	207.20	+7.10	..
(Accum Units)	208.80	221.40	+7.60	..
American Opps	88.99	94.62	+3.57	...
(Accum Units)	90.10	95.71	+3.62	...
British Blue Chip	76.17	80.85	+1.84	2.88
(Accum Units)	93.91	99.80	+2.26	2.88
Cash	100.30	100.30†	+0.10	6.26
(Accum Units)*	137.80	137.80†	+0.10	6.26
Emerging Mkts	97.50	104.90	+0.10	0.14
(Accum Units)	97.97	105.20	+0.10	0.14
European Growth	240.00	254.40	+5.50	0.18
(Accum Units)	258.80	274.20	+5.80	0.18
European Income	80.65	85.22†	+1.71	3.27
(Accum Units)	108.90	114.70†	+2.50	3.27
General	480.70	511.80	+8.90	2.42
(Accum Units)	937.80	997.80	+17.50	2.42
Global Bond	120.50	126.60	+1.70	5.46
(Accum Units)	145.20	152.50	+2.00	5.46
Gold & General	192.20	206.70	-1.90	0.43
(Accum Units)	197.30	212.20	-1.90	0.43
Govt Securities	86.40	91.14	+0.43	8.23
(Accum Units)	172.10	177.40	+0.80	8.23
Income	142.80	151.90†	+2.20	4.57
(Accum Units)	225.30	239.70†	+3.70	4.57
Inc Portfolio #	52.78	56.48†	+1.40	5.28
(Accum Units) #	83.63	88.61†	+1.43	5.28
Intl Opps	435.70	463.60	+8.70	0.35
(Accum Units)	581.90	619.20	+10.80	0.35
Japan	166.40	176.40†	+1.90	...
(Accum Units)	170.80	181.10†	+2.00	...
New Europe	168.50	179.70†	+2.50	0.78
(Accum Units)	173.80	185.50†	+2.70	0.78
Pacific	112.70	120.20	+5.90	0.85
(Accum Units)	120.70	128.70	+7.40	0.85
Recovery	276.10	294.50	+2.10	0.88
(Accum Units)	352.40	375.90	+2.60	0.88
UK Smaller Cos	83.24	88.70	+0.12	0.91
(Accum Units)	80.18	84.19	+0.13	0.91
Portfolio	76.79	81.55	+1.45	2.83
(Accum Units)	80.16	85.74	+1.69	2.83
Managed Gth	94.18	98.65	+1.88	1.93
Managed Inc	96.71	102.40	+1.59	4.39
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD				
0707 662 233				
Emngrowth Plus	111.52	118.64	+2.60	0.91
Portfolio	63.72	67.79	+1.20	0.67
UK Income Inc	72.92	77.57	+1.44	4.83
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	58.11	60.85	+0.44	3.29
(Accum Units)	61.14	64.02	+0.46	3.29
British Tst	82.30	88.18	+2.43	2.17
(Accum Units)	94.82	99.07	+2.79	2.17
Euro High Inc	65.73	68.63†	+0.53	6.62
(Accum Units)	127.29	133.10†	+1.00	6.62

Leading three offer little hope for league strugglers

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

NEARLY two-thirds of the way through the Courage Clubs Championship programme, the first-division table tells a curious tale. Only six points cover the bottom seven teams, none of whom could claim to be completely immune from relegation — not if they endure a month such as Bristol suffered in January, for example.

Two league defeats and a fifth-round cup loss effectively ended Bristol's competitive season and left Bath, Leicester and a somewhat detached Wasps in glorious isolation. Admittedly two of those three defeats arrived at the hands of Bath and Leicester, but the third was against Sale, who thereby pushed up to fifth in the table.

But they are among an intensely competitive field, none of whom can be certain of the future. Just how competitive is emphasised by the points difference, where all seven clubs are in the red, despite the expansive rugby which characterises the Sale and Harlequins approach and, to a lesser degree, those of the other clubs. The exception is Bristol, whose success has come largely through their forwards.

Perhaps it is exactly because more clubs are playing high-risk rugby that they should occasionally take an expensive tumble. Wasps, the *beau ideal* this season, have scored more points than any other club in the first three divisions but have also conceded more than Bath, Leicester or, indeed Orrell.

Today the season takes a serious turn through the absence of 13 England players, all resting for next week's game with Wales. The two exceptions are entirely predictable: Dean Richards leads Leicester against Gloucester at Kingsholm, while Mike Catt is stand-off half for Bath at Orrell.

FIRST DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	PD	Pts
Bath	10	1	0	226	124	102	21
Leicester	9	1	1	274	176	98	19
Wasps	8	0	3	310	189	121	16
Bristol	5	0	6	211	222	-11	10
Sale	4	1	6	220	245	-25	9
Orrell	4	1	6	141	186	-45	9
Gloucester	4	0	7	171	189	-18	8
W Hartlepool	3	1	7	205	256	-51	7
Harlequins	3	1	7	165	245	-80	7
Northampton	2	0	9	157	248	-91	4

This is where clubs take stock of what it might cost them in lost revenue and lost players should they get relegated. It is only Bath who have the strength to lose Ben Clarke and the injured John Hall and pull in two internationals, Steve Ojomoh and Eric Peters, to replace them, though Orrell welcome back the experienced Gerry Ainscough.

Northampton, bottom of the pile, play Sale without Tim Rodber and Martin Bayfield, while Harlequins (second bottom) play Bristol without Will Carling, Brian Moore and Jason Leonard.

Sale, who beat Saints 41-9 at Brooklands in September, are stronger today with the availability of David Baldwin and John Fowler at lock, and the addition on the wing of the pugnacious Chris Yates. Two wins (over Gloucester and West Hartlepool) represents a desperate return for Northampton, even if they do remain in the cup.

Harlequins have only one more league victory than Northampton, but have Mark Russell available for his first league game of the season in their back row.

Bristol, without Kyran Bracken at scrum half, give a league debut at loose-head prop to the England Schools cap, Altan Ozdemir. The 20-year-old Turkish-born Ozdemir plays in the absence of injured Scottish international, Alan Sharp. West Hartlepool are bolstered by their Scots, Rob Wainwright and Derrick Patterson, and give Australian lock, Troy Jaques, a league debut at Wasps.

The Londoners are without Rob Andrew, the injured Dean Ryan and Damian Hopley, and the 'flu-stricken Norman Hadley, but restore Matt Greenwood to lock after his sending-off in the cup match at Waterloo. The two players dismissed since the advent a month ago of disciplinary cards, Greenwood and Orrell's Martin Scott, have received a "sending-off sufficient" verdict from their county disciplinary committees.

Since neither Lancashire nor Middlesex are noted for their liberalism it must be assumed that justice is being done for the players; one can only hope that referees will not feel they lack support for their actions.

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Women's turn first

SIX DAYS before their men's counterparts play in Cardiff, the women of England and Wales meet at Sale tomorrow (David Hands writes). England hope to sustain their unbeaten run which, a year ago, came severely under threat in an 11-10 victory at Bridgend. Two months later, they won the women's world tournament in Edinburgh, and now they will hope for better against Wales on home ground.

England show only one change, with Paula George, of Wasps, coming in at full back, from the team that beat Holland 30-5 in December. On the same day, Wales, led by Sue Butler, of Richmond, went down 5-0 to Scotland and have made three changes (two through injury) behind the scrum to what was, in any case, a very inexperienced XV.

☐ A famous sporting institution takes on a new identity today when Brunel University College (BUC) play Cambridge University at Grange Road. BUC disguises West London Institute of Higher Education (known to even earlier generations as Borough Road College), which has merged with Brunel.

MARK ROUND



Lara swings a ball to the leg side during his century in Wellington yesterday

Brilliant Lara finds form in New Zealand

By Our Sports Staff

BRIAN LARA scored a fine 147 to lead West Indies to a commanding total of 356 for three wickets against New Zealand by the close of the first day of the second cricket Test match in Wellington yesterday. Lara added 221 in partnership with Jimmy Adams, who hit an unbeaten 87, after the West Indies were given a flying start by Sherwin Campbell, who hit an aggressive 88.

All the batsmen were able to cash in the decision by Courtney Walsh, the captain, to bat on an easy-paced pitch, that is expected to take spin later in the match. Lara, who had a relatively poor tour to India and failed in the drawn first Test in Christchurch, put the New Zealand attack to the sword.

Lara rarely struck a false note and delighted the crowd with his full array of shots, particularly cuts and pulls off the back foot. His fourth Test century included 15 fours and once he reached the milestone, off just 134 balls, he increased the tempo, often hitting two or three fours an over.

Late in the day, Lara was hit on the helmet by a bouncer by Danny Morrison and was then leg-before in Morrison's next over. He hit 24 fours and one six in his 181 ball-innings.

At the other end, Adams at times was barely noticeable but proved the perfect foil. Where the swashbuckling Lara, with his big backlift, used butal power, Adams used timing and placement, but was ruthlessly efficient. Three times in one over he drove Matthew Hart, the left-arm spinner, to the long-on boundary.

Campbell and Stuart Williams scored a brisk 85 for the first wicket before Williams was out, flicking a wide ball to Adam Parore, the wicketkeeper, off Simon Doull.

Campbell was hampered by a leg injury and, like Lara, unsettled by a Morrison bouncer that struck him on the helmet. Although he hooked the next ball for six, Morrison had him caught at fine leg in the next over attempting to repeat the shot.

The New Zealand bowlers had to wait more than three hours for their next success. Their attack was restricted by a pre-match injury to Shane Thomson, the off spinner, and the decison to play him in their team was soon exposed.

WEST INDIES: First innings

S C Williams c Parore b Doull	26
S L Campbell c Su'a b Morrison	88
B C Lara lbw Morrison	147
J C Adams not out	87
K L T Arthurton not out	0
Extras lb 4, nb 4)	8
Total (3 wkts)	356

S Chanderpaul, †J R Murray, C E L Ambrose, *C A Walsh, K C G Benjamin and R Dhanraj to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-85, 2-134, 3-355.

BOWLING: Morrison 21-4-88-2; Su'a 25-3-91-0 (nb 4); Doull 20-4-93-1; Hart 16-0-82-0; Jones 8-2-20-0.

NEW ZEALAND: B A Young, D J Murray, A H Jones, *K R Rutherford, S P Fleming, S A Thomson, †A C Parore, M N Hart, M L Su'a, S Doull, D K Morrison.

Horton's bronze relieves British frustration

From John Goodbody in Paris

IT GLADDENS the heart of any aspiring samurai to watch the judo at the Tournoi de Paris. The British team may have had a largely frustrating day's competition yesterday, but there was compensation in the quality of the fighting and the highly charged atmosphere, and in the bronze medal won by heavyweight Josie Horton.

The tournament was sold out two months ago, and the crowd of 6,000 was so close to the mats that the pressure could be overwhelming, particularly as the French spectators supported their fighters noisily against those of 49 other countries. In fact, most of the Britons went down to French opponents.

Horton, however, seemed to find favour with the French crowd probably because, at 12½ stone, she was outweighed by many of her heavyweight opponents, some of whom make east European shot putters look decidedly under-nourished.

After getting a decision for the bronze medal against Sandra Koppen, a solid, 15-stone German, Horton said: "It is the David and Goliath thing and it did help [illegible] fighting a French competitor. [illegible] like looking at the size of bigger opponents and thinking I have beaten them."

When she first moved up from light-heavyweight, where she was fifth in the 1992 Olympics, she had pieces of paper stuck on walls around her house in Croydon with the words "I am a heavyweight" on them to convince herself that this category represented her future. Yesterday, she was desperately unlucky not to go even further. Her defeat on a decision by the Cuban Guisado Beltran was debatable.

Horton was forced to move up a division when Kate Howey became a light heavyweight. Yesterday Howey, who came second in the world championships in 1993, lost to Heidi Rakels, of Belgium, and then, in the repechage, was countered by Estha Essombe, of France, and could not make up the deficit.

Three other Britons also lost to French opponents. Nicola Fairbrother, the world lightweight champion, looked nervous and her timing was awry in her first bout against Isabelle Magnien, who took the decision. Cheryl Peel, the world junior lightweight champion, went out to Barbara Dubois, also of France.

In the men's competition, Nigel Donahue, the 1990 European bantamweight silver medal-winner, lost twice to French competitors, although his concentration was affected when a severe clash of heads meant that he fought with a badly cut head.

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
* *denotes all-ticket match*
pools coupon numbers in brackets

FA Carling Premiership
(-) Arsenal v Leicester
(-) Aston Villa v Wimbledon
(-) Chelsea v Tottenham
(-) Crystal Palace v Coventry
(1) Leeds v Ipswich
(-) Liverpool v QPR
(9.15am pitch inspection)
(-) Man City v Manchester Utd
(-) *Newcastle v Nottingham Forest*
(-) Norwich v Southampton

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn	27	18	5	4	58	24	59
Man Utd	27	17	6	4	48	21	57
Newcastle	27	13	9	5	45	29	48
Liverpool	26	13	8	5	45	21	47
Nottm Forest	27	13	7	7	40	29	46
Tottenham	26	12	6	8	44	37	42
Leeds	26	10	9	7	34	28	39
Sheff Wed	27	10	9	8	36	33	39
Wimbledon	26	10	6	10	31	40	36
Norwich	26	9	7	10	25	29	34
Arsenal	27	8	9	10	30	31	33
Chelsea	26	8	8	10	34	37	32
Man City	26	8	8	10	35	41	32
Aston Villa	27	7	10	10	32	36	31
Southampton	26	6	12	8	37	42	30
Crystal Palace	27	7	9	11	21	26	30
QPR	25	8	6	11	38	44	30
Everton	27	7	9	11	27	36	30
West Ham	26	8	4	14	24	33	28
Coventry	27	6	10	11	25	45	28
Ipswich	27	5	5	17	28	55	20
Leicester	26	4	6	16	24	45	18

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
(2) Barnsley v Tranmere
(3) Charlton v Sunderland
(4) *Grimsby v Luton*
(5) Notts County v Southend
(6) Oldham v Middlesbrough
(7) Port Vale v West Bromwich
(-) Portsmouth v Millwall
(8) Reading v Derby
(9) Sheffield Utd v Stoke
(10) Watford v Burnley
(11) Wolverhampton v Bristol City

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bolton	30	14	9	7	50	32	51
Tranmere	29	14	7	8	46	33	49
Middlesbrough	28	14	7	7	41	26	49
Wolves	28	14	5	9	50	39	47
Reading	29	13	8	8	34	27	47
Sheff Utd	29	12	9	8	47	33	45
Watford	29	11	11	7	33	28	44
Grimsby	29	10	11	8	42	40	41
Barnsley	27	12	5	10	34	34	41
Luton	28	11	7	10	38	35	40
Millwall	28	10	10	8	36	32	40
Derby	28	10	9	9	35	30	39
Oldham	29	10	8	11	39	38	38
Charlton	28	9	9	10	42	45	36
Southend	29	10	5	14	29	52	35
Stoke	27	9	8	10	28	33	35
West Brom	29	9	7	13	25	35	34
Portsmouth	28	8	9	12	30	41	33
Swindon	27	8	8	11	36	43	32
Port Vale	27	8	8	11	33	36	32
Sunderland	28	6	14	8	28	28	32
Bristol City	29	8	6	15	25	39	30
Burnley	26	6	9	11	28	38	27
Notts County	30	6	7	17	31	43	25

Second division
(12) Blackpool v Oxford Utd
(13) Bournemouth v Brighton
(14) Brentford v Bradford
(15) Bristol Rovers v Cambridge Utd
(16) Cardiff v Leyton Orient
(17) *Crewe v Birmingham
(18) Peterborough v Plymouth
(19) Rotherham v Swansea
(20) Shrewsbury v Wycombe
(21) Stockport v Chester
(22) *Wrexham v Huddersfield*
(23) York v Hull

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Birmingham	28	15	8	3	48	17	53
Brentford	28	16	4	8	55	25	52
Huddersfield	28	14	9	5	49	33	51
Crewe	27	15	4	8	54	46	49
Wycombe	26	14	7	5	38	29	49
Oxford Utd	27	14	5	8	44	35	47
Blackpool	29	14	4	11	48	47	46
Hull	28	13	6	9	47	38	45
Bristol Rovers	25	11	10	4	43	24	43
Bradford	28	12	7	9	38	38	43
Stockport	27	13	3	11	41	35	42
Wrexham	25	11	8	6	43	32	41
York	27	12	5	10	38	27	41
Swansea	26	9	11	6	32	26	38
Rotherham	27	9	7	11	35	35	34
Peterborough	27	7	11	9	33	42	32
Shrewsbury	28	8	7	13	36	38	31
Brighton	26	7	10	9	27	34	31
Cambridge Utd	29	7	9	13	39	53	30
Plymouth	27	6	5	16	28	58	23
Bournemouth	29	5	7	17	28	54	22
Cardiff	28	5	6	17	27	46	21
Leyton Orient	28	5	5	18	22	43	20
Chester	28	3	6	18	21	54	15

Third division
(24) Bury v Barnet
(25) Carlisle v Hereford
(26) *Chesterfield v Gillingham*
(27) Colchester v Rochdale
(28) Darlington v Wigan
(—) Exeter v Walsall
(29) Hartlepool v Doncaster
(30) Lincoln v Fulham
(31) Mansfield v Scunthorpe
(32) *Northampton v Preston*
(33) Torquay v Scarborough

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	27	18	8	1	48	17	62
Walsall	24	13	7	4	43	24	46
Chesterfield	26	13	7	6	35	26	46
Doncaster	28	12	8	8	35	23	44
Bury	23	12	6	5	32	17	42
Scunthorpe	27	12	5	10	48	38	41
Preston	27	12	5	10	34	27	41
Mansfield	27	12	4	11	52	40	40
Colchester	26	11	7	8	37	38	40
Barnet	25	11	6	8	33	33	39
Torquay	27	10	8	9	37	36	38
Fulham	27	9	11	7	32	31	38
Lincoln	26	9	7	10	31	29	34
Rochdale	26	9	6	11	33	48	33
Darlington	25	9	6	10	31	31	33
Wigan	25	7	6	12	34	40	27
Exeter	25	7	5	13	20	38	26
Hereford	27	6	7	14	31	50	25
Gillingham	25	6	6	13	27	38	24
Hartlepool	25	6	5	13	23	39	24
Northampton	26	4	8	13	21	35	21
Scarborough	26	4	6	16	27	48	18

Vauxhall Conference
(—) Dover v Northwich
(—) Halifax v Dagenham and Red
(—) Stafford v Bromsgrove

Unibond League
Premier division
(34) Accrington Stanley v Matlock
(35) *Barrow v Gainsborough*
(36) Boston v Horwich
(37) Droylsden v Buxton
(—) Frickley v Chorley
(—) *Whitley Bay v Knowsley*
(—) Winsford v Spennymoor

Diadora League
Premier division
(—) Bishop's Stortford v Grays
(—) Bromley v Aylesbury
(38) *Dulwich v Hendon*
(39) Hayes v Carshalton
(40) Hitchin v Harrow
(—) St Albans v Yeading
(—) Sutton United v *Chesham*
(—) Walton and Hersham v Marlow
(—) Wokingham v Molesey

Bell's Scottish *League*
Premier division
(41) Celtic v Hibernian
(42) *Dundee Utd v Falkirk*
(43) Hearts v Kilmarnock
(44) Partick v Motherwell

First division
(45) Ayr v Dundee
(46) Dunfermline v Stranraer
(47) St Johnstone v *Hamilton*
(48) St Mirren v Raith

Second division
(49) Brechin v Stenhousemuir
(50) Clyde v Berwick
(51) Dumbarton v Meadowbank
(52) *Queen Of South v East Fife*
(53) Stirling v Greenock Morton

Third division
(54) Albion v Caledonian Thistle
(55) Arbroath v Queen's Park
(56) Cowdenbeath v East Stirling
(57) Forfar v Montrose
(58) Ross County v Alloa

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Second round: Altrincham v VS Rugby; Ashton United v Macclesfield; Boreham Wood v Kettering. *Colwyn Bay* v Enfield; Farnborough v Rushden and Diamonds; *Gateshead* v Rothwell; Gresley v Morecambe; Halesowen v Guiseley; Hyde v Telford; *Kingstonian* v Kidderminster; Runcorn v Leek; Welling v Ilkeston; Woking v Cheltenham; Yeovil v Stevenage.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cambridge City v Burton. Dorchester v Hednesford; Gloucester v Hastings; Sittingbourne v Worcester; Sudbury v *Gravesend and Northfl*; Trowbridge v Solihull. Southern division: Ashford v Weymouth; Baldock v Havant; Bashley v *Erith* and Belvedere; Burnham v Bury Town; Fareham v Clevedon; *Fisher 93* v Waterlooville; Newport IoW v Braintree; Salisbury v Poole; Wealdstone v Witney; *Weston-Super-Mare* v Margate; Yate v Tonbridge AFC. Midland division: Bridgnorth v Newport AFC.; Buckingham *Town* v Bedworth; Dudley Town v Bilston; Evesham v King's Lynn; *Forest Green* v Sutton Coldfield; Grantham v Leicester United; Nuneaton v Armitage; RC Warwick v Hinckley Town; Tamworth v Stourbridge.

UNIBOND NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: First division: Alfreton v Warrington; Bamber Bridge v Blyth Spartans; Caernarfon v Eastwood Town; *Farsley Celtic v Mossley; Fleetwood v* Harrogate Town; Goole v Gretna; Lancaster v Curzon Ashton; Netherfield v Congleton; Workington v Radcliffe; Worksop v *Atherton L R.*

DIADORA LEAGUE: First division: Chertsey v Newbury; Dorking v Berkhamsted; Heybridge Swifts v Billericay; Ruislip Manor v Barking; Staines v Uxbridge; Wembley v Leyton; Whyteleafe v Maidenhead; Wivenhoe v Tooting and Mitcham; *Worthing v Basingstoke. Second division:* Aveley v Malden Vale; Bracknell v Hampton; Hungerford v Barton; Leatherhead v Egham; Oxford City v Croydon; Saffron Walden v *Hemel Hempstead;* Thame v Chalfont St Peter; Tilbury v Edgware; Ware v Metropolitan Police; Windsor and Eton v Cheshunt; Witham v Banstead. *Third division:* Collier Row v Canvey Island; East Thurrock v Hertford; Epsom and Ewell v Hornchurch; Feltham and Hounslow B v Cove; Harefield v Horsham; Harlow v Bedford Town; Kingsbury v Camberley; Leighton v Lewes; Northwood v Southall; Tring v Flackwell Heath.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: *Bangor* City v Holywell; Barry v Aberystwyth; Connah's Quay v Porthmadog. Ebbw Vale v Cwmbran; Llanelli v Maesteg Park; Rhyl v *Newtown (2.30).*

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: East Ham v Concord; Ford v Eton Manor; Gt Wakering v Brentwood; *Hullbridge Sports* v Bowers, *Romford* v Burnham Ramblers; Southend Manor v Maldon.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Amersham v Waltham Abbey; Beaconsfield Sycob v Brook House; Brimsdown v Tower Hamlets; Corinthian-Casuals v Hillingdon; Croydon v Barkingside; Hanwell v Willesden; Walthamstow Pennant v Haringey.

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES *LEAGUE: Premier division:* Ashford v Westfield; D C A Basingstoke v Viking Sports; Eton Wick v Peppard; Farnham v Cranleigh. Cobham A v Hartley Wintney; *Merstham v Ash. Challenge Vase: Third* round: Chipstead v Sandhurst. Horley v Bedfont. Third-round replay: Netherne v Godalming and Guildford.

MINERVA SOUTH *MIDLANDS LEAGUE:* Premier division: Arlesey Town v Royston; Biggleswade v Hatfield; Dunstable v Hoddesdon; Harpenden v Langford; Milton Keynes v Brache Sparta; Potters Bar v Letchworth Gc: Shillington v Buckingham Ath.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: *Premier division:* Chippenham v Taunton; Bridport v Crediton; Bristol *Manor* Farm v Frome; Mangotsfield v Bideford; Odd Down v *Torrington; Tiverton v Calne;* Westbury v Elmore; Barnstaple v Saltash.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Diss v Histon; Felixstowe v Soham; Great Yarmouth v Wisbech; Harwich and Parkeston v Newmarket: Lowestoft v Hadleigh U; March v Sudbury; Stowmarket v Fakenham; Tiptree v Haverhill; Watton v Woodbridge.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Afc Totton v Gosport; Andover v *Fleet; Bemerton Heath v Cowes Sports;* Bournemouth v Ryde Sports; Brockenhurst v Eastleigh, Christchurch v BAT.; Downton v AFC Lymington; East Cowes Vics v *Swanage* and Herston; Portsmouth v Horndean; Thatcham v Aerostructures; Wimborne v Petersfield.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Burgess Hill; Crowborough v Langney Sports; East Grinstead v Southwick; Eastbourne Town v *Ringmer;* Oakwood v *Hailsham;* Peacehaven/Telscombe v Hailsham.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: *First* division: Beckenham v Slade Green; Chatham v *Sheppey;* Cray v Tunbridge Wells; Crockenhill v Canterbury; Darenth Heathside v *Ramsgate;* Greenwich v Herne Bay; Kent Police v Furness; Thamesmead v Deal; Whitstable v *Folkestone Invicta.* First division Cup: Third round: Dartford v Faversham.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: *Premier division:* Cinderford v Brackley; Cirencester v Almondsbury; Highworth v Swindon Supermarine; Kintbury v Fairford, Pegasus *Juniors v Shortwood; Tuffley v Abingdon.*

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Boston v S and L Corby; Eynesbury v Stamford; Kempston v Bourne; Long Buckby v Cogenhoe; Mirrlees Blackstone v Raunds; Newport Pagnell v Spalding; Stotfold v Holbeach; Wellingborough v Desborough; Wootton v Northampton Spencer

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Barwell v Halesowen Harr; *Boldmere St. M v Stratford;* Boldmere Swifts v Rushall O.; Brierley Hill v Stapenhill; Knypersley Vic v Oldbury; Paget v Chasetown; Pershore v Shifnal; Rocester v *Shepshed D.: Sandwell Boro v Hinckley* Athletic; West Mid. Police v Willenhall.

SKOL MIDLAND FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Premier division: Alvechurch Villa v Northfield; Chelmsley v Bloxwich; Highgate v Meir K.A.; Kings Heath v Handrahan Timbers; Knowle v Olton Royale; Upton v *Sherwood Celtic, Wellesbourne v Coleshill:* West Midland Fire Service v Studley B.K.L.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier Division: Bilston v Manders F C; Blakenall *v Pelsall Villa; Cradley v Darlaston F C;* Ettingshall H T v Gornal; Hill Top v Malvern; Lye v Westfields; Stourport Swifts v Ludlow; Wednesfield v Tividale F C; Walsall Wood F C v *Bloxwich Strollers.*

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: *Armthorpe Welfare* v Ashfield; Belper Town v Hallam; Denaby v Lincoln United; Glasshoughton Wel. v Maltby MW; Hucknall v Ossett Town; Liversedge v Brigg; North Ferriby v Pontefract *Col.; Ossett Albion v Arnold; Pickering* v Stocksbridge P S; Sheffield v Thackley.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Bacup v Prescot; *Bootle* v Glossop North End; Clitheroe v Burscough, Darwen v Maine Road; Holker Old Boys v Trafford; Kidsgrove v Eastwood H; Nantwich v Skelmersdale; Newcastle Town v Rossendale; Penrith v Bradford Park Avenue, Salford v Chadderton; St. Helens v Blackpool Rovers.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Billingham v R T M Newcastle; Dunston F.B v Hebburn; Durham v Peterlee; Eppleton C.W v *Ferryhill; Guisborough v Prudhoe:* Murton v Bedlington Terriers; Northallerton v Consett; Shildon v Chester Le Street; West Auckland v Tow Law; Whitby v Seaham *Red Star.*

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Southampton v Norwich (at Marchwood FC, 2.0).

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ballyclare v Carrick; Crusaders v Bangor; Distillery v Ards. Glenavon v Coleraine; Larne v Portadown; Linfield v Ballymena; Newry v Cliftonville; Omagh v Glentoran.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Sligo v Shelbourne (7.30)

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal v Q.P.R.; Charlton v Cambridge Utd; Chelsea v Norwich; Fulham v *Gillingham; Millwall v Tottenham;* Portsmouth v Ipswich; Watford v Leyton Orient; West Ham v Southend. Second division: Bournemouth v Bristol City; Brighton v *Bristol Rovers; Crystal Palace* v Wimbledon; Luton v Oxford Utd: Swindon v Reading; Tottenham v Brentford; Wycombe v Colchester.

AFA SENIOR CUP: Third-round replay: O Parmiterians v O Highburians; O Isleworthians v Cuaco; O Foresters v O Latymerians.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Arthur Dunn Cup: Lancing v Chigwellians; Salopians v Malvernians. Premier division: Brentwoods v Reptonians; Carthusians v Etonians; Wellingburians v Aldenhamians, First division: Ardinians v Bradfieldians; Haileyburians v Cholmeleians; Witleians v Wykehamists.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: O Ignatians v O Wilsonians; Clapham v O Danes; O Hamptonians v Chertsey; O Tenisonians v O Aloysians. Senior first division: *O Edmontonians v O Salvatorians;* Phoenix v O Suttonians; O Wokingians v Latymer; O Tiffinians v O Kingsburians. Senior second division: Enfield v O Manorians; O Vaughanians v O Camdenians; O Meadonians R v O Tollingtonians; O Ignatians R v O Minchendenians; O Southallians v Mill Hill Cty; J Fisher v O Westhamians. Senior third division: O Hamptonians R v Glyn R; Leyton v O Greenfordians; O Grocers v O Alpertonians, O Salvatorians v Chorleywood. Senior Cup: Cardinal Manning v Glyn.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Civil Service v Old Actonians; Winchmore Hill v *East Barnet O.G.: West Wickham v Midland* Bank; Polytechnic v Broomfield: Old Stationers v Old Parkonians; Old Bromleians v Lloyds Bank; Old Westminster Cz. v *Kew Association; Lensbury* v Alexandra Park; Ibis v Alleyn O.B.; Bank of England v Barclays Bank; Reigate Priory v Brentham; Merton v Old Lyonians.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN *LEAGUE:* Senior one: Old Owens v Nottsborough; Parkfield v Wandsworth Boro; Southgate County v Witan; Ulysses v Old Grammarians. Senior two: Duncombe Sports v Hale End, Ealing Association v Ucl Academicals; Hadley v Old Besonians; Honourable Artillery Co v Old Finchleians; Old Fairlopians v Albanian. *Senior three:* Brent v B.B.C.; City Of London v Westerns; Old Colfeians v London Welsh; Old Monovians v Polygons; Old Woodhouseians v Fulham Compton Ob. Senior four: Bourneside v Hampstead Heathens; Broadfields v Mayfield; Cardinal Pole v London Airways: Old Sinmerobians v Inland Revenue; Pegasus v Centymca.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools Fuji Film Trophy: Quarter-finals: Swansea v Manchester (at Vetchfield, 10.30); Langbaurgh v South Tyneside *(at Marton* FC, 10.30). FA Premier League trophy: Under-19: Leicester v West Midlands (at Leicester City Training Ground, 10.30); Durham v Lancashire *(at Southshields FC,* 1.0). Under-16: Northern semi-finals: Cleveland v Lancashire (ICI, Redcar, 1.0); Greater Manchester v West Yorkshire (at *Manchester Univ,* 10.30). English Snickers Trophy: Under-16: Darwen Vale HS, Lancs v Swarnick Hall, Derbyshire (2.15). Welsh Schools Yeoman Shield: Quarter final: *Wolverhampton v South Credigion (12.30).*

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

Courage clubs championship
First division
Gloucester v Leicester
Harlequins v Bristol
Northampton v Sale (2.15)
Orrell v Bath
Wasps v West Hartlepool

Second division
London Irish v Waterloo
London Scottish v Fylde
Newcastle Gosforth v Coventry
Nottingham v Moseley
Saracens v Wakefield

Third division
Bedford v Rugby P
Blackheath v Rosslyn Park
Exeter v Morley
Harrogate v Richmond
Otley v Clifton

Fourth division
Aspatria v Broughton Park
Havant v Leeds
Liverpool St Helens v Askeans
Reading v Redruth (2.45)
Rotherham v Plymouth (2.15) P

Fifth division north
Barkers Butts v *Nuneaton*
Preston Grasshoppers v Sheffield
Stourbridge v Stoke
Walsall v *Birmingham/Solihull*
Wharfedale v Lichfield (2.15)
Winnington Park v Kendal

Fifth division south
Barking v Lydney
Henley v Weston-super-Mare
London Welsh v Berry Hill
Met Police v Camborne
Sudbury v High Wycombe
Tabard v Basingstoke

PILKINGTON SHIELD: Sixth round: North: Wibsey v Huddersfield YMCA.

Swalec Cup
Fifth round
Tenby Utd v Aberavon
Whitland v Mountain Ash

Heineken League
Second division
Llandovery v Bonymaen
Maesteg v Narberth

THIRD DIVISION: Blackwood v Aberavon Quins; Glamorgan Wanderers v Blaina; Kenfig Hill v Ystradgynlais; *Pontypool Utd* v Caerphilly; Tondu v Tredegar.

McEwan's League
First division
Boroughmuir v Edinburgh Acads
Dundee HSFP v Currie
Glasgow H K v Hawick
Gala v Jed-Forest
Heriot's FP v Watsonians
Stewarts Mel FP v Stirling County
West of Scotland v Melrose

Second division
Corstorphine v Edinburgh Wndrs
Gordonians v Glasgow Acads
Haddington v Biggar
Kelso v Preston Lodge
Kirkcaldy v Wigtownshire
Musselburgh v Grangemouth
Peebles v Selkirk

Insurance Corporation League
First division
Garryowen v Old Wesley
St Mary's College v Dungannon
Sunday's Well v Lansdowne
Young Munster v Instonians

Second division
Ballymena v Dolphin
Bective Rangers v Terenure Coll
Malone v Old Crescent
Old Belvedere v Univ College Dublin
Wanderers v Bangor

Club matches
Abercynon v Treorchy C
Cambridge Univ v Brunel Univ Coll
Dunvant v Neath C
Llanharan v Abertillery
Newbridge v Ebbw Vale
Penarth v Newport
Pontypridd v Cross Keys
South Wales Police v Pontypool
Swansea v Cardiff

Court v Anchorians; Maidenhead v Woking; O Kingstonians v Lewes; O Walcountians v Lyons; Oxford Hawks v Staines, Winchester v *Chichester. Regionals:* Hampshire/Surrey: Basingstoke v Pirelli; Bournemouth v Barnes; Cheam v Purley; Hamble OB v Fleet; Lensbury v Epsom; *London University* v *Weybridge Hawks;* Merton v O Mid Whitgiftians; O Edwardians v Camberley; Oxted v Oxshott; Petersfield v Southampton Tautonians. Kent/Sussex: Beckenham v Crawley; Bexleyheath v Gravesend; Bognor v O Holcombeians; Brighton v Blackheath; Greenwich v Middleton; Mid Sussex v O Bordenians; O Williamsonians v Horsham; Sevenoaks v Marden Russets; Tulse Hill v Belvedere; Tunbridge Wells v Herne Bay. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Amersham v City Of Oxford; Aylesbury v Gerrards Cross; Headington v Bracknell; Newbury v Marlow; OMT v Mill Hill; PHC Chiswick v Milton Keynes; Ramgarhia v Hayes; Richings Park v HCC; Sunbury v Hendon; Wokingham v Eastcote.

NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Ben Rhydding v Norton, Blackburn v *Timperley;* Formby v Hightown-Northern; Harrogate v Stockton; Southport v Warrington.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: *Premier division A: Blueharts v Peterborough* Town; Cambridge University v Ipswich, Chelmsford v Bishops Stortford; Dereham v Redbridge and Ilford; Luton v Colchester. *Premier division B: Ipswich and Eats Suffolk* v Stevenage, Norwich City v Bedford; Pelicans v O Southendian, Romford v Westcliff; Sudbury v Bury St Edmunds.

DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE MIDLAND LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper v Khalsa; Bloxwich v Nottingham; Lichfield v Harbourne; Leicester Westleigh v Hampton-*in-Arden;* North Notts v Olton and West Warwickshire.

SUN LIFE LEAGUE: Premier division: Cheltenham v Swansea; Exeter University v West Wilts; Hereford v Bath Buccaneers; West Glos v Taunton Vale; Weston-super-Mare v Plymouth.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: *Premier division: Balsam Leicester v First Personnel* Sutton Coldfield; Bracknell v Ipswich; Chelmsford v Clifton; Slough v Hightown. First division: Bradford Swithenbank v Exmouth, *Ealing v Blueharts;* Trojans v Doncaster; Wimbledon v Canterbury. Second division: Great Harwood v Sunderland Bedens; St Albans v Sherwood; Loughborough v *Pickwick;* Woking v Olton.

WELSH LEAGUE: Aberystwyth University v Cardiff Athletic; Colwyn Bay v Penarth, Haverfordwest v Llanfair, Newtown v Swansea; Wrexham v Newport.

EAST LEAGUE: Cambridge City v Bexleyheath; O Loughtonians v Saracens; Redbridge v Sevenoaks; WGC v Harleston M.

MIDLANS LEAGUE: Belper v Peveril; Crimson R v Hampton; Kettering v Tamworth; Wolverhampton v Wooldridge.

NORTH LEAGUE: Chester v *Ormskirk;* Liverpool v Crosby; Poynton v Don Valley; York v Newcastle.

SOUTH LEAGUE: City of Portsmouth v *Worthing; Dulwich* v Hendon; Guildford v Southampton; Havant v Winchmore Hill; West Whitney v Ealing B; Winchester v Reading.

WEST *LEAGUE:* Cheltenham v Yate; East Glos v Cotwall; Exeter v Bournemouth; Gloucester v WSM; Lansdown v Wimborne W. Leominster v St Austell; Redland v Plymouth.

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

FA Carling Premiership
Blackburn v Sheff Wed (5.00)

Coca-Cola Cup
Semi-final, first leg
Swindon v Bolton

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division
Aberdeen v Rangers

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Liskeard v Paulton.

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Second round: Bath v Marine.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Cork v Athlone; Derry v Shamrock (3.15)

RUGBY UNION

Insurance Corporation League
First division
Cork Constitution v Shannon (2.30)

Women's international
England v Wales
(at Sale, 2.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

Silk Cut Challenge Cup
Fourth round
Beverley v Batley
(at the Boulevard, Hull, 2.30)
Carlisle v Widnes (2.0)
Doncaster v Sheffield
Featherstone v Barrow (3.30)
Huddersfield v Halifax (3.30)
Hunslet v Salford
(at McLaren Field)
Keighley v Dewsbury (3.15)
Leeds v Bradford
London Broncos v Hull K R
(at Hendon FC)
Oldham v Bramley
Ryedale York v Rochdale (3.15)
Swinton v Leigh
Warrington v Castleford
Whitehaven v Wakefield
Workington v Hull

BNFL NATIONAL CUP: Third round: Cardiff Sea Eagles v Ackworth; Peckham v Leigh Miners.

HOCKEY

HA CUP: Fifth round: Formby v Firebrands (Formby Cricket Club 2.30); Guildford v Warwick (Kings Manor School 12.0), Hampstead and Westminster v Richmond (Paddington Recreation Ground 1.30); Isca v Spencer *(Exeter School 2.30),* Neston v Barford Tigers (Neston Recreation Centre 1.45).

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Second division: St Albans v Crostyx (Clarence Park 2.0).

CLUB MATCHES: Old Loughtonians v East Grinstead; Surbiton v Slough.

TOUR MATCH: Gloucester City v Lomas (Arg).

AEWHA CUP: Fourth round: Bradford Swithenbank v Leyland Motors, Canterbury v St Albans; Chelmsford v Hendon; Ealing v Welton; Exmouth v. Loughborough Students, First Personnel v Slough; Harleston *Magpies v Hampton-In-Arden,* Hightown v Wimbledon, Ipswich v Woking; Newcastle v Aldridge; Pickwick v Farnborough; Sherwood v Deeside Ramblers; Sunderland Bedens v Balsam; Trojans v Bracknell; Wigan v Southampton; Winchester v Tulse Hill

WELSH LEAGUE: Colwyn Bay v Newport, Haverfordwest v Newtown, Llanfair v Aberystwyth University, Swansea v Cardiff Athletic, Wrexham v Penarth.

AEWHA PLATE: Third round: Camberley v *Welwyn Garden City; Crimson Ramblers* v Ben Rhydding, Crosby v Milton Keynes; Havant v Green Dragons; Kettering v Atalanta; Liverpool v Pavlors; North Staffs v York; *Norwich City* v *West Witney; Oldham* v Cheam; Pelicans v Bexleyheath; Pressed Steel Fisher v Brentwood; Shrewsbury v Barnes, Wallington v West Bromwich; Whitley Bay v Chester; Wimborne Wayfarers v Letchworth; Winchmore Hill v Yate.

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Bracknell v Nottingham (5.15); Cardiff v Humberside (6.30), *Durham* v *Fife* (6.30). Edinburgh v Peterborough (6.30); Sheffield v Basingstoke (6.30); Whitley v Milton Keynes (6.30) First division: Blackburn v Slough (6.0); Guildford v Medway (5.15); Lee Valley v Chelmsford (7.0); Solihull v Paisley (7.0); Trafford v Telford (5.30).

OTHER SPORT

BADMINTON: National championships (Norwich).

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Chester v Hemel (6.0); London v Doncaster (5.0). Sheffield v Manchester (6.15).

CYCLING: Superdrome international meeting (Manchester).

LACROSSE: Women's national championship: Chiswick.

SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Masters (Wembley).

SWIMMING: World Cup meeting (Sheffield).

TENNIS: LTA men's satellite tournament (Bramhall). LTA women's satellite tournament (Sunderland). Vauxhall indoor Trophy: Women: Quarter-finals: Clearview Brentwood v Hallamshire Sheffield; Edgbaston Priory v Connaught; Northumberland LT and SRC v David Lloyd Eastbourne; Queen's Club v Parklangley Bromley.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Birmingham v Derby (8.0); Leicester v Hemel (7.30); Sunderland v Doncaster (7.30); Thames Valley v Chester (8.0); Worthing v Sheffield (8.0).

HOCKEY

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier *League: Ashford* v Wimbledon; City Of Portsmouth v High Wycombe; Dulwich v O Whitgiftians; Fareham v Spencer; Gore

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke v Cardiff (6.0); Edinburgh v Whitley (7.0); Fife v Peterborough (7.15); Milton Keynes v Bracknell (6.30); Nottingham v Humberside (6.30); *Sheffield v Durham* (7.0). First division: Chelmsford v Paisley (6.30); Lee Valley v Trafford (7.0); Medway v Dumfries (5.15); Slough v Guildford (6.30); Swindon v Blackburn (5.15); Telford v Solihull (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Great Britain v France (Glasgow).

BADMINTON: National championships (Norwich).

BOWLS: Manchester Unity Liberty Trophy: Semi-finals: Wiltshire v Buckinghamshire *(Whiteknights 10.0):* Norfolk v Cumbria (Gosling 12.30).

CYCLING: Superdrome international meeting (Manchester).

LACROSSE: North Of England League; First division: Sale v Stockport; Ashton v Cheadle; Sheffield Steelers v Timperley; Poynton v *Boardman and Eccles A.* Women's national championship: Chiswick.

SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Masters *(Wembley).*

SWIMMING: World Cup meeting (Sheffield).

TENNIS: LTA men's satellite tournament (Bramhall). LTA women's satellite tournament (Sheffield). LTA women's satellite tournament (Sunderland).

Trying time for Tote Gold Trophy

By Julian Muscat

IT IS as well for the racing world that Ryan Price is no longer around to see what has become of his beloved Tote Gold Trophy. The former Findon trainer, who did not mince his words, would have summoned his fiercest volley to shake the complacency now surrounding this once-colourful event.

Distant are the days when the Gold Trophy, formerly the Schweppes, routinely attracted a mammoth field. It was something of a scandal when, for the first time, the 1988 renewal attracted fewer than 20 runners. Seven years on, the eight horses vying for this handsome prize make up the smallest field since the race was established in 1963.

In these circumstances the sponsors would welcome all the support they could get. Yet Charles Egerton and Jamie Osborne, respectively the trainer and jockey of Mysilv, have been instructed not to communicate over the mare's prospects. Tony Hill, who fronts the Elite Racing Club, which owns Mysilv, believes all such information is the preserve of the club's members. "It is confidential inside information," Hill insisted yesterday.

Of course, it has its price. Members — all 9,000 of them — are expected to glean this information through a premium rate telephone line. They need not bother. Mysilv's presence here indicates she is obviously well. She is in form, too, having convincingly outgalloped Pridwell at Cheltenham last month. And she is a front-runner in a race sure to be run at a cracking gallop. Unless Hill can reveal that she has now sprouted wings, there is little more he can say.

Osborne, ironically, did not ride Mysilv to victory at Cheltenham. But he was aboard Trying Again when David Gandolfo's much-improved seven-year-old romped away with the Lanzarote Hurdle at Kempton last time. Trying Again has since been regularly schooled by Mark Dwyer, his big-race jockey, although he has never won on a left-handed track.

"He has jumped to the right on occasions but I don't believe that will be a problem," Gandolfo said of this once-difficult animal. "It's true that on the two occasions he ran badly he was racing left-handed, but other factors might have influenced that. It's for Mark to decide how to ride him according to how the race unfolds. He certainly doesn't have to be in front from the start."

With Mysilv, Trying Again and Pridwell all keen to get on with it, they could just as easily tee the race up for the latecomers. Atours, the top weight, has a similar task to that faced by Oh So Risky, beaten a whisker last year. Atours will have to sharpen his jumping to avenge his stable companion's defeat by Large Action.

Of the others, Surrey Dancer can be entertained on his recent defeat, again by Large Action. Cockney Lad, third in The Ladbroke, remains an unknown but talented quantity. And Major Bugler, a course specialist representing Toby Balding's in-form stable, will happily splash through the Newbury quagmire.

The contest is truly wide open, although that is not what subscribers to Elite Racing's premium line can expect to be served with their breakfast this morning.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: GRAND SELECTION
(3.35 Lingfield Park)
Next best: Kadi
(3.10 Uttoxeter)



Anzum gains an easy victory at Newbury yesterday on his way to the Triumph Hurdle. Photograph: Julian Herbert

Tartan Tyrant is no soft option in National Trial

NEWBURY
BBC1

1.10: The mud-loving Hill Trix, a winner here at 50-1 last year, bounced back to form with a 40-1 success at Towcester nine days ago. If he reproduces that form he has strong claims but his completion record is dismal and he cannot be backed with confidence. **Don't Tell The Wife** fell three out when looking a big threat in a race won by Lo Stregone here in December and reopposes on 3lb better terms. Di Haine's improving chaser can gain revenge having won well at Cheltenham last month.

1.40: Viking Flagship is unbeaten in conditions races, has beaten both his opponents and has ground conditions to suit in a race he won last year before taking the Queen Mother Champion Chase. He will be short odds to follow up. Snitton Lane prefers faster ground and Nakir is best for the forecast.

2.15: A couple of David Gandolfo's string have run disappointingly this week and with a slight doubt about Trying Again being as effective on a left-handed course, **Mysilv** gets the vote. Charlie Egerton's Champion Hurdle hope is unpenalised for her recent win at Cheltenham, and meets Pridwell (winner since) on better terms. Surrey Dancer ran a cracker behind Large Action when 10lb out of the handicap at Kelso but prefers better ground. Major Bugler, a winner in soft ground here on the Flat, is an interesting long shot.

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

UTTOXETER
C4

2.40: Belmore Rock is a speculative choice in a dreadful race. He has not raced for 801 days, since when he has been switched to Martin Pipe's yard. Few trainers are better at improving poor horses and the eight-year-old could come good off his light weight. Jay Em Ess is a more logical choice, after appearing not to stay when runner-up over 2½ miles last time.

3.10: Kadi is well ahead of the handicapper and should follow up his easy success at Towcester nine days ago. He took on some of the best novices earlier in the season but is off a mark of 105 today, compared to a hurdle winning mark last season of 133. High Alltitude has run some good races without winning and was travelling well behind Dual Image when falling four out last Saturday. Unguided Missile is the class runner but could struggle to give the weight away in this ground.

3.40: Although Billygoat Gruff was below form when trounced by **Idiot's Lady** at Newbury six weeks ago, he will be hard pressed to reverse the form with Jenny Pitman's runner. That was only his second race over hurdles and further improvement looks assured on his favoured soft ground. My Rossini is another mud lover who has shown consistent form.

4.10: Although 4lb out of the handicap, **Tartan Tyrant** may offer some value against Martin Pipe's Grand National favourite, Miinnehoma. Gordon Richards's chaser has a tremendous win record, loves soft ground and recorded an excellent performance last time when winning at Haydock five weeks ago. Do Be Brief is way out of the handicap but ran his best race of the season at Towcester nine days ago.

4.40: Nick The Beak was having his third race inside a month when disappointing in a competitive affair at Cheltenham four weeks ago. After a break John Upson's runner can bounce back to form on his preferred ground in a weaker race. Top Spin has some useful form but has never won a handicap.

RICHARD EVANS

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CATTERICK	109	209	309
LINGFIELD	110	210	310
NAVAN	161	261	361

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RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Southwell (AW, first race 2.10), Hereford (2.00), Plumpton (1.50).
TUESDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 1.50), Leicester (2.00), Newton Abbot (1.40).
WEDNESDAY: Wolverhampton (AW, 2.20), Ascot (BBC, 1.30), Folkestone (1.40), Sedgefield (1.30).
THURSDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 1.50), Sandown Park (2.00), Taunton (2.15).
FRIDAY: Southwell (AW, 1.50), Fakenham (2.15), Sandown Park (1.30).
SATURDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 2.20), Wolverhampton (AW, 7.00), Chepstow (BBC, 1.00), Newcastle (C4, 1.25), Nottingham (C4, 1.40), Windsor (1.50).
Flat meetings in bold

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14 Native Pride — 200 Rusty Bridge
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TOTE GOLD TROPHY H'CAP HURDLE
2 miles ½ furlong, Newbury 2.15pm, Live on BBC TV.
15/8 Mysilv — 8 Surrey Dancer
11/4 Trying Again — 9 Pridwell
15/2 Atours — 12 Major Bugler
8 Cockney Lad — 50 Rodeo Star
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NEWBURY

THUNDERER

1.10 Lo Stregone
1.40 Viking Flagship
2.15 Mysilv
2.45 Corner Boy
3.15 ROYAL PIPER (nap)
3.45 Kentish Piper
4.15 Silver Groom

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.15 SILVER GROOM.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 1.10 Dont Tell The Wife.

GOING: HEAVY — SIS

1.10 MANDARIN ORIENTAL CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS HANDICAP CHASE (£7,252: 3m 2f 110yd) (7 runners) — BBC1

101 4P-3U05 CAPABILITY BROWN 42 (F,G,S) (D Lewis) R Price 8-11-10 — J R Kavanagh 91
102 42P36-3 FOREST SUN 84 (F,G,S) (Michael Jackson Bloodstock) C Brooks 10-11-7 — G Bradley 95
103 2102-60 JUST SO 7 (S) (H Cole) H Cole 12-11-6 — B Powell 85
104 333-121 LO STREGONE 42 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs S Clegg) T Tate 9-11-6 — J Osborne 94
105 1-121U1 DONT TELL THE WIFE 28 (D,G,S) (H & K) Mrs D Haine 9-11-0 — J F Titley [illegible]
106 34-634P HILLWALK 16 (G,S) (M Stone) R Curtis 9-10-3 — D Morris 88
107 P14P-P1 HILL TRIX 9 (C,G,S) (Mrs E Ellis) K Bishop 9-10-0 — A Tory 92

Long handicap: Hill Trix 9-11.

BETTING: 2-1 Lo Stregone, 5-2 Dont Tell The Wife, 9-2 Forest Sun, 6-1 Just So, 8-1 Hill Trix, 10-1 others.

1994: BISHOPS ISLAND 8-11-3 A Maguire (7-2) D Nicholson 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

CAPABILITY BROWN 46½l 5th of 8 to Master Oats in grade II Coral Welsh National here (3m 6f, heavy). FOREST SUN 40l 3rd of 6 to Well Briefed in conditional jockeys' handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good to soft). JUST SO 48l 8th of 11 to Deep Bramble in grade II Agfa Handicap Limited Chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, soft). LO STREGONE beat Over The Deel 20l in handicap chase over course and distance (heavy) with HILLWALK (14lb better off) 13l and short-head 4th and DONT TELL THE WIFE (3lb better off) unseated rider 3 out. HILL TRIX beat Celtic Prince 1¼l in handicap chase at Towcester (3m 1f, heavy).
Selection: DONT TELL THE WIFE

1.40 MITSUBISHI SHOGUN GAME SPIRIT CHASE (Grade II: £16,815: 2m 1f) (3 runners) — BBC1

201 111-512 NAKIR 46 (BF,G,S) (J Lewis) S Christian 7-11-10 — J Osborne 91
202 112-115 VIKING FLAGSHIP 28 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Roach Foods) D Nicholson 8-11-10 — A Maguire [illegible]
203 142-F22 SNITTON LANE 46 (F,G,S) (H White) W Clay 9-10-12 — M A Fitzgerald 77

BETTING: 1-2 Viking Flagship, 9-4 Nakir, 10-1 Snitton Lane.

1994: VIKING FLAGSHIP 7-11-10 A Maguire (3-1) D Nicholson 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

NAKIR distance 2nd of 3 to Amtrak Express in handicap chase at Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, soft). Previously beat On So Grumpy 3l in 4-runner handicap chase at Ascot (2m, good). VIKING FLAGSHIP 27½l 5th of 8 to Martha's Son in grade I Victor Chandler Chase at Ascot (2m, good). Previously beat SNITTON LANE (3lb better off) 25l in 6-runner grade II Castleford Chase at Wetherby (2m, soft). SNITTON LANE 2½l 2nd of 6 to Rodeo Star in handicap chase at Doncaster (2m 3f 110yd, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: VIKING FLAGSHIP

2.15 TOTE GOLD TROPHY HANDICAP HURDLE (Grade III: £33,770: 2m 110yd) (8 runners) — BBC1

301 111322 ATOURS 14 (CD,F,G,S) (Oh So Rosie Partnership) D Elsworth 7-11-10 — P Holley 81
302 1113-61 MYSILV 28 (CD,G,S) (Elite Racing Club) C Egerton 5-10-8 — J Osborne [illegible]
303 621-111 TRYING AGAIN 21 (D,S) (W Dore) D Gandolfo 7-10-2 (7ex) — M Dwyer 98
304 33P416 RODEO STAR 28 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (J Bradbury) N Tinkler 9-10-1 — M A Fitzgerald —
305 3282-13 COCKNEY LAD 28 (D,BF,G,S) (D Daly) N Meade (Ire) 6-10-0 — P Carberry 80
306 412282 SURREY DANCER 8 (D,G,S) (Laurel (Leisure) Ltd) Mrs M Reveley 7-10-0 — G Lee (5) 84
307 6110-21 PRIDWELL 14 (D,F,G,S) (M Jones) M Pipe 5-10-0 — A Maguire 91
308 P/5050-2 MAJOR BUGLER 91 (CD,S) (C Buckle) G Balding 6-10-0 — A P McCoy (3) 77

Long handicap: Surrey Dancer 9-13, Pridwell 9-9, Major Bugler 9-7.

BETTING: 7-4 Mysilv, 2-1 Trying Again, 8-1 Cockney Lad, Surrey Dancer, 10-1 Pridwell, 10-1 Atours, 14-1 Major Bugler, 33-1 Rodeo Star.

1994: LARGE ACTION 6-10-8 J Osborne (9-2) O Sherwood 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

ATOURS 7l 2nd of 7 to Mudahim in grade I Cleeve Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f 110yd, heavy). MYSILV beat PRIDWELL (5lb worse off) 5l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, good to soft). TRYING AGAIN beat Keep Me In Mind 30l in 4-runner handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m, heavy). RODEO STAR best recent hurdling effort about 8l 4th of 13 to Kadastrof in conditions hurdle at Warwick (2m, good to soft). COCKNEY LAD 5l 3rd of 17 to Anusha in grade I Ladbroke Handicap Hurdle at Leopardstown (2m, yielding). SURREY DANCER neck 2nd of 8 to Large Action in limited handicap hurdle at Kelso (2m 110yd, good to soft). PRIDWELL beat Zealous Kitten 9l in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, heavy).
Selection: MYSILV

2.45 KUNG HEI FAT CHOY NOVICES CHASE (£4,695: 3m) (6 runners)

401 11-2411 CORNER BOY 23 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs E Wilson) D Nicholson 8-11-12 — A Maguire 93
402 020-112 MAD THYME 47 (G,S) (R Jenks) N Gaselee 8-11-12 — M A Fitzgerald [illegible]
403 1U251F PETOSKU 7 (D,G,S) (F Mills) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-12 — T Jenks 96
404 62-F631 SIMON JOSEPH 21 (D,S) (Mrs G McFerran) T George 8-11-8 — B Powell 81
405 0/P MIGHTY MICHAEL 28 (L Fust) A Jarvis 9-11-2 — J R Kavanagh —
406 3- MR SUNBEAM 477 (Mrs A Jarvis) A Jarvis 7-11-2 — G Bradley 77

BETTING: 5-4 Corner Boy, 5-2 Mad Thyme, 5-1 Petosku, Simon Joseph, 14-1 Mr Sunbeam, 66-1 Mighty Michael.

1994: THE GLOW 6-11-12 P Holley (11-4) D Elsworth 6 ran

3.15 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,143: 3m 110yd) (13 runners)

501 1/P5255- CHIEF CELT 374 (D,G,S) (Mrs J Peppiatt) J King 9-11-10 — J Osborne 88
502 10/0P30- METAL OISEAU 364 (B,D,G,S) (F Ivary) K Cunningham-Brown 7-11-7 — M Dwyer 80
503 0016-P5 HURRICANE BLAKE 80 (B,F,G) (Exors of P Rylands) D Grissell 7-11-6 — Peter Hobbs 92
504 221036 WASHINGTON HEIGHTS 29 (B,D,F,G) (Mrs P Dodd) C Mann 6-11-3 — M A Fitzgerald 84
505 012403 THE BOILER WHITE 28 (V,F,S) (D Wilson) T Thomson Jones 7-11-3 — D Meade 95
506 2-480P0 TARKOVSKY 24 (D,S) (J Watkins) R Price 10-11-2 — J R Kavanagh 83
507 440F-11 STAR MARKET 24 (G,S) (Mrs P Joynes) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-1 — Mr S Joynes (7) 90
508 2P-22 GILLAN COVE 29 (Forum Racing) R Alner 6-10-13 — A Maguire 91
509 13/23/P FIVELEIGH BUILDS 64 (D,G,S) (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 8-10-12 — G Bradley —
510 PFPPF1 ROYAL PIPER 16 (S) (A Darlington) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 8-10-10 — A Tory 98
511 45PU-PP DERRING VALLEY 113 (B,F,G,S) (A King) A Jones 10-10-6 — L Harvey [illegible]
512 4-23634 PATROCLUS 28 (V,D,S) (Applied Signs Ltd) J Mackie 10-10-2 — G Lee (5) 91
513 P34UP-4 JUST A SECOND 42 (C Drewe) C Drewe 10-10-0 — A P McCoy (3) 89

Long handicap: Just A Second 9-13.

BETTING: 7-2 Royal Piper, 4-1 Gillan Cove, 5-1 Star Market, 7-1 The Boiler White, 8-1 Hurricane Blake, Washington Heights, 10-1 Patroclus, 14-1 others.

1994: BRAVE BUCCANEER 7-10-4 P Niven (6-4 fav) Mrs M Reveley 9 ran

3.45 VARIETY CLUB APPEAL CHASE (Limited handicap: £6,938: 2m 4f) (8 runners)

601 24041-P RICHVILLE 87 (D,F,G,S) (Major-Gen R L T Burges) K Bailey 9-11-7 — G Bradley 91
602 22P2F-3 ROUGH QUEST 108 (D,G) (A Wates) T Casey 9-11-2 — M A Fitzgerald 96
603 1102-2F KENTISH PIPER 77 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs T Perkins) N Gaselee 10-10-13 — J Osborne 94
604 13PPF-3 GNOME'S TYCOON 106 (CD,F,G,S) (I Naylor) R Phillips 9-10-11 — J Railton 94
605 242221 BIBENDUM 21 (D,F,G,S) (R Waley-Cohen) R Waley-Cohen 9-10-10 — Peter Hobbs [illegible]
606 42123F- LAKE TEEREEN 288 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs A Grantham) J Old 10-10-9 — T Grantham 85
607 451214 ENCORE UN PEU 28 (BF,G,S) (V Nally) M Pipe 8-10-9 — A Maguire 95
608 32221-3 CAMELOT KNIGHT 28 (S) (M Gates) N Twiston-Davies 9-10-7 — T Jenks 90

Long handicap: Camelot Knight 10-4

BETTING: 7-2 Bibendum, 4-1 Camelot Knight, 9-2 Kentish Piper, Encore Un Peu, 5-1 Lake Teereen, 6-1 Rough Quest, 8-1 Gnome's Tycoon, 20-1 Richville.

1994: KENTISH PIPER 9-10-8 C Llewellyn (5-2) N Gaselee 4 ran

4.15 YEAR OF THE PIG NOVICES HURDLE (£3,994: 2m 110yd) (17 runners)

1 2-51124 AIR SHOT 28 (D,G,S) (Mrs P Prowting) D Nicholson 5-11-12 — A Maguire 92
2 43-415 MORE DASH THANCASH 56 (D,G) (D Woodgates) Mrs M Jones 5-11-9 — M Dwyer 79
3 132 SILVER GROOM 28 (D,BF,S) (Silver Darling Partners) R Akehurst 5-11-9 — S Ryan (7) [illegible]
4 6 CLIFTON GAME 44 (Oding Enterprises) P Murphy 5-11-4 — E Murphy —
5 3-30003 CONTI D'ESTRUVAL 102 (G) (B Keay) G Balding 5-11-4 — A P McCoy (3) —
6 31-65 DISTANT ECHO 92 (F) (M Fordham) O Arbuthnot 5-11-4 — S McNeill 61
7 10- PERSIAN BUTTERFLY 308 (G) (R Wright) D Elsworth 7-11-4 — P Holley —
8 0/44-5 GWEEBARRA BAY 36 (G Ham) G Ham 6-11-4 — G Upton 70
9 R- MOUGINS 478 (R Tooth) H Rowsell 6-11-4 — A Tory —
10 6-50 MR PRESIDENT 54 (J Halliday) C Brooks 6-11-4 — G Bradley 59
11 00-0 MUTUAL MEMORIES 86 (Tilley Wright Partners) N Henderson 7-11-4 — M A Fitzgerald —
12 2-0R SEACHANGE 35 (A Stewart) M Wilkinson 6-11-4 — J F Titley 66
13 SEIZE THE DAY 476F (D Pooley) C Broad 7-11-4 — G Hogan (5) —
14 6- SMART CASANOVA 322 (C Courage) M Wilkinson 5-11-4 — P Ward (7) —
15 003-251 UNSINKABLE BOXER 118 (S) (P Green) N Walker 6-11-4 — B Powell —
16 006-P LYRICAL SEAL 26 (B) (Mrs J Dening) Miss A Whitfield 5-10-13 — D Fortt (5) —
17 25 AMBER VALLEY 7 (Berkshire Commercial Components) D Williams 4-10-8 — J Osborne 89

BETTING: 7-4 Silver Groom, 4-1 Air Shot, 11-2 More Dash Thancash, 8-1 Amber Valley, 10-1 Conti D'Estruval, 12-1 Distant Echo, 14-1 Persian Flutter, Unsinkable Boxer, 16-1 others.

1994: CALIANDAK 4-10-7 G McCourt (5-1) N Tinkler 15 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Miss A Whitfield	3	8	37.5	P Holley	17	70	24.3
M Pipe	22	91	24.2	J Osborne	40	168	23.8
D Elsworth	18	79	22.8	A Maguire	15	97	15.5
D Nicholson	25	110	22.7	S McNeill	9	58	15.5
N Henderson	26	118	22.0	J Railton	3	28	10.7
Mrs M Reveley	3	14	21.4	Only qualifiers			

Blinkered first time

AYR: 4.20 Truely Royal. CATTERICK: 3.55 Truely Royal. LINGFIELD PARK: 2.05 Nothing Doing, 3.35 Mayday Kitty, Rowlandsons Silver, 4.05 Wisdom, 4.35 Panchelita. NEWBURY: 3.15 Patroclus, 4.15 Lyrical Seal. UTTOXETER: 2.40 Viceroy Ruler.

UTTOXETER

THUNDERER

1.35 Sunny Mount
2.10 Test Match
2.40 Heathyards Crusade
3.10 Kadi
3.40 Billygoat Gruff
4.10 Tartan Tyrant
4.40 Nick The Beak

Brian Beel: 1.35 Sunny Mount.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 — B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: HEAVY — SIS

1.35 MOUNT ARGUS HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £2,379: 2m 7f) (12 runners)

1 4223P-3 BALDA BOY 27P (G,S) (R Bevis) R Bevis 11-12-0 — R Bevis (7) 86
2 PP1212- BRADWALL 257 (F,G,S) (G Barlow) Mrs A Hewitt 11-12-0 — J Barlow (7) 92
3 3/114U- EASTERN DESTINY 301 (G,S) (Exors of E Griffith) Mrs J Griffith 17-12-0 — A Griffith (7) 85
4 /P3232- EXTRA SPECIAL 332 (G) (R Ogden) G Richards 10-12-0 — A Ogden (7) 79
5 1P2P- HYMER 269 (S) (Mrs M Llewellyn) B Llewellyn 6-12-0 — S Bush (5) —
6 P/0P05-5 MACHO MAN 21P (F,G,S) (B Hughes) B Hughes 10-12-0 — D Hughes (7) 67
7 12/2P/ RECTORY BOY 728P (F,S) (B Llewellyn) B Llewellyn 12-12-0 — J L Llewellyn (7) —
8 5P/111- SOLAR GREEN 259 (F,G,S) (Reach Ltd) S Brookshaw 10-12-0 — S Brookshaw (5) 70
9 1FF211- SUNNY MOUNT 288 (F,G,S) (J Greenall) Miss C Saunders 9-12-0 — J Greenall [illegible]
10 PPP/4/5 THE SCREAMIN DEMON 27P (G) (L Bowles) L Bowles 12-12-0 — R Johnson (7) —
11 21P085- CRUISING ON 278 (S) (Mrs J Goodall) B Goodall 8-11-9 — C Stockton (7) —
12 FP4P0R- PLAYFUL JULIET 318 (CD,G,S) (J Hewitt) J Hewitt 7-11-9 — R Hewitt (7) —

BETTING: 5-4 Sunny Mount, 7-2 Eastern Destiny, 8-1 Balda Boy, 10-1 Bradwall, Solar Green, 16-1 Extra Special, 20-1 Hymer, Macho Man, 25-1 others.

1994: FIFTH AMENDMENT 9-12-0 R Ponsonby (5-2 fav) C Mann 13 ran

2.10 BILL LOVE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,518: 2m) (9 runners)

1 11-45P5 STYLUS 5 (CD,G,S) (M O'Toole) M Chapman 6-11-11 — S Lyons [illegible]
2 6-64310 TEST MATCH 23 (CD,G,S) (K Dutton) W Clay 8-11-6 — N Juckes (7) 92
3 205 LET'S GET LOST 12F (P Murphy) J A Harris 8-11-6 — T Descombe (5) 80
4 3130/0/ FUTURE KING 857 (D,G) (Mrs A Jarvis) A Jarvis 8-11-2 — P Morris (5) —
5 /P5/5-55 SANTARAY 84 (D,G,S) (S Taberner) T Donnelly 9-11-0 — T Eley 87
6 /30421 BARDAISH 9 (G) (Arden Racing Club) M Barraclough 6-10-8 — S Wynne 90
7 301P4/ NANDA MOON 1006 (D,F) (In The Pink Pixies) A Barrow 8-10-0 — F Leahy —
8 1-06004 TAKE A FLYER 24 (D,F,G) (Bull & Bear Racing) R Hodges 5-10-0 — J Harris (7) 88
9 243P-P0 PRINCETHORPE 32 (D,S) (G Farndon) B Cambidge 8-10-0 — D Meredith 88

Long handicap: Princethorpe 9-8.

BETTING: 2-1 Bardaish, 7-2 Test Match, 5-1 Let's Get Lost, Stylus, 8-1 Santaray, 10-1 Take A Flyer, 20-1 Future King, 25-1 Nanda Moon, Princethorpe.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

2.40 JOHN PARTRIDGE ENGLISH CLOTHING NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,474: 2m) (14 runners) — C4

1 05-44 BOLD ACRE 38F (Mrs M Morgan) D Burchell 5-11-10 — D J Burchell 86
2 134325 HEATHYARDS CRUSADE 30F (S) (L Morgan) R Hollinshead 4-11-8 — S Wynne (3) 98
3 0-0FS22 JAY EM ESS 68 (BF) (Mrs J Stennett) D Nicholson 6-11-7 — R Massey (5) 81
4 616 VICEROY RULER 47 (B,D,G) (J McBarron) J Jenkins 4-11-6 — N Williamson 88
5 123 KINTAVI 21 (D,S) (S Taberner) T Donnelly 5-11-5 — T Eley (3) 93
6 30-06F2 FERRUFINO 47 (P Rich) P Rich 7-10-8 — P McDermott 89
7 5-UF540 FINKLE STREET 24 (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 7-10-3 — Richard Guest [illegible]
8 0P/404/ BELMORE ROCK 801 (Mrs A Hartnell) M Pipe 8-10-3 — C Swan —
9 P350 TRECENTO 23 (F Dickinson) J Mackie 4-10-0 — R Supple 80
10 00-3205 SUNGIA 95 (Mrs C Bresay) K Bridgwater 6-10-0 — J Lodder 89
11 0P-00P0 THAT'S SPECIAL 23 (J Gilbert) R Harris 6-10-0 — S Keightley —
12 640-000 RAVENSPUR 52 (Mrs M Park) Mrs F Owen 5-10-0 — D Gallagher 80
13 00/0P-P0 CREDIT CALL 52 (R Brazington) R Brazington 7-10-0 — W Humphreys —
14 P0PPP-0 NORDIC FLIGHT 14 (Lyonshall Racing) R Eckley 7-10-0 — V Slattery —

Long handicap: That's Special 9-12, Ravenspur 9-8, Credit Call 9-2, Nordic Flight 8-11

BETTING: 4-1 Jay Em Ess, 5-1 Heathyards Crusade, Kintavi, 6-1 Belmore Rock, Ferrufino, 8-1 Viceroy Ruler, 12-1 Bold Acre, Finkle Street, Sungia, 14-1 others.

1994: SAINT CIEL 6-10-6 R Supple (4-1) F Jordan 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

BOLD ACRE 12¾l 4th of 8 to El Grando in novice handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m 1f, soft). HEATHYARDS CRUSADE 12l 2nd of 7 to Nipper Reed in novice handicap hurdle over course and distance (soft) on penultimate start. JAY EM ESS 7l 2nd of 12 to The Hatcher in novice hurdle at Ludlow (2m 5f 110yd, good). VICEROY RULER beat Jattab 3l in 8-runner juvenile hurdle at Fakenham (2m, good) on penultimate start. KINTAVI 10l 3rd of 13 to King Athelstan in handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m, heavy). FERRUFINO 1½l 2nd of 17 to Marsdock in novice handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good). BELMORE ROCK 13½l 4th of 11 to Peacemas in novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, soft) December 1992.
Selection: HEATHYARDS CRUSADE (nap)

3.10 PEDIGREE CHUM NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE FOR THE ANIMAL HEALTH TRUST (£10,601: 2m 5f) (7 runners) — C4

1 23-1421 UNGUIDED MISSILE 47 (G) (D Harrison) G Richards 7-11-11 — A Dobbin 83
2 4-23321 KADI 9 (G,S) (J Brown) D Nicholson 6-10-10 — N Williamson [illegible]
3 203-24F HIGH ALLTITUDE 7 (BF,G,S) (B Batey) G Moore 7-10-5 — N Doughty 98
4 2P6F15 JAMES THE FIRST 9 (F,G,S) (D Nichols) P Nicholls 7-10-0 — C Maude 87
5 50-1133 YOUNG BALDRIC 44 (CD,F) (Blakeley Painters Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 8-10-0 — W Marston 91
6 10FFF2 DISTANT LADY 8 (G,S) (P Tosney) Mrs S Smith 9-10-0 — Richard Guest 79
7 203/3-24 PRIMITIVE SINGER 14 (F,S) (S Kitching) J Pickering 7-10-0 — T Eley (3) 77

Long handicap: James The First 9-8, Young Baldric 9-8, Distant Lady 9-6, Primitive Singer 9-5

BETTING: 2-1 Kadi, 5-2 Unguided Missile, 7-2 High Altitude, 7-1 Young Baldric, 8-1 James The First, 12-1 Distant Lady, 14-1 Primitive Singer.

1994: NAKIR 6-11-10 R Dunwoody (6-4 fav) S Christian 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

UNGUIDED MISSILE beat Sparrow Hall 13l in 5-runner novice chase at Wetherby (3m 110yd, good). KADI beat Sassamacamile 15l in 10-runner novice chase at Towcester (2m 6f, heavy). HIGH ALLTITUDE 19l 4th of 12 to Morcali in grade B Dipper Novices Chase at Newcastle (2m 4f, good) on penultimate start. JAMES THE FIRST beat Elite Reg 1¾l in handicap chase at Newton Abbot (2m 110yd, heavy) on penultimate start. YOUNG BALDRIC best effort this season, beat Nick The Dreamer 12l in 4-runner novice chase at Wincanton (2m 5f, firm). DISTANT LADY 8l 2nd of 10 to Bayerische in novice chase at Kelso (3m 1f, good to soft). PRIMITIVE SINGER 25l 2nd of 12 to Corner Boy in novice chase at Nottingham (3m 110yd, soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: KADI

3.40 MARSTONS PEDIGREE NOVICES HURDLE (£7,328: 3m 110yd) (7 runners) — C4

1 05-511P BETTER BYTHE GLASS 42 (D,S) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-7 — D Bridgwater 77
2 3-11112 BILLYGOAT GRUFF 42 (D,BF,G,S) (P Cooper) D Nicholson 6-11-7 — N Williamson 97
3 3/P0-121 MY ROSSINI 35 (G,S) (Mrs C Eaton) P Bevan 6-11-7 — T Wall 93
4 2300-21 IDIOT'S LADY 42 (D,S) (Mrs J Ollivant) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-2 — W Marston [illegible]
5 34-36 LE MEILLE 99 (P Rowbotham) A Jarvis 6-10-12 — P Morris 63
6 32 ROSMARINO 21 (R Howell) W Jenks 5-10-12 — D Gallagher 97
7 00- HEPBURN 430 (B Davies) R Brazington 7-10-7 — W Humphreys —

BETTING: 7-4 Idiot's Lady, 5-2 Billygoat Gruff, 3-1 My Rossini, 7-1 Better Bythe Glass, 8-1 Rosmarino, 25-1 Le Meille, 66-1 Hepburn.

1994: CORNER BOY 7-11-2 R Dunwoody (5-4 fav) D Nicholson 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

BETTER BYTHE GLASS dead-heated with Maybe O'Grady in 11-runner novice hurdle at Haydock (2m 6f, good to soft) on penultimate start. MY ROSSINI beat Challenger Du Luc 8l in novice hurdle at Haydock (2m 6f, soft) with ROSMARINO (4lb better off) 12l 3rd. IDIOT'S LADY beat BILLYGOAT GRUFF (8lb better off) 20l in 7-runner novice hurdle at Newbury (3m 110yd, heavy) with BETTER BYTHE GLASS pulled up before 3rd. LE MEILLE 27l 3rd of 13 to Solo Gent in novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start. ROSMARINO ½l 2nd of 12 to Nabthen Lad in novice hurdle at Haydock (2m 4f, heavy).
Selection: IDIOT'S LADY

4.10 SINGER & FRIEDLANDER NATIONAL TRIAL (Handicap chase: £25,598: 4m 2f) (12 runners) — C4

1 3P/101-1 MIINNEHOMA 35 (F,G,S) (F Starr) M Pipe 12-11-7 — C Swan [illegible]
2 30R-22F RUN FOR FREE 70 (F,G,S) (Mrs M Freeling) M Pipe 11-10-10 — M Perrett 93
3 11P-1U1 TARTAN TYRANT 35 (G,S) (Mackinnon Mills) G Richards 9-10-0 — A Dobbin 86
4 243-24U DAKYNS BOY 42 (G,S) (A Parker) N Twiston-Davies 10-10-0 — D Bridgwater 86
5 43104P SIBTON ABBEY 14 (F,G,S) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 10-10-0 — Richard Guest 93
6 0P1P-32 RIVER TARQUIN 55 (G,S) (Elite Racing Club) K Bailey 11-10-0 — F Leahy (5) 85
7 D14121 WILLSFORD 35 (C,G,S) (A Kaplan) Mrs J Pitman 12-10-0 — W Marston 81
8 244214 NATIVE PRIDE 28 (B,BF,F,G,S) (I S Racing) K Bailey 8-10-0 — N Williamson 76
9 15-P423 DO BE BRIEF 9 (B,C,G,S) (E Brown) Mrs J Pitman 10-10-0 — R Farrant 77
10 5/12112 VICOMPT DE VALMONT 35 (B,BF,G,S) (J Blackwell) P Nicholls 10-10-0 — C Maude 72
11 204216 ITS A SNIP 4 (B,C,G,S) (Icy Fire Pines) C Mann 10-10-0 — R Bellamy 50
12 -664365 RUSTY BRIDGE 7P (F,G) (I Johnson) Mrs S Johnson 8-10-0 — Mr R Johnson (7) 50

Long handicap: Tartan Tyrant 9-10, Dakyns Boy 9-8, Sibton Abbey 9-9, River Tarquin 9-6, Willsford 9-1, Native Pride 8-11, Do Be Brief 6-8, Vicompt De Valmont 8-5, Its A Snip 6-3, Rusty Bridge 6-2.

BETTING: 9-4 Miinnehoma, 5-2 Tartan Tyrant, 7-1 Dakyns Boy, 8-1 River Tarquin, Run For Free, 12-1 Willsford, 14-1 Vicompt De Valmont, 20-1 Native Pride, Sibton Abbey, 25-1 others.

1994: SHEER ABILITY 8-10-7 R Dunwoody (6-4 fav) C Mann 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

MIINNEHOMA beat General Pershing 20l in grade 2 Newton Chase Limited Handicap at Haydock (2m 4f, soft). RUN FOR FREE best recent effort 7l 2nd of 4 to Captain Dibble in limited handicap chase at Haydock (3m, good to soft). TARTAN TYRANT beat Cache Fleur 3½l in handicap chase at Haydock (3m, soft). DAKYNS BOY best effort this term 1¼l 2nd of 6 in handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 3f 110yd, good to soft). RIVER TARQUIN 6l 2nd of 6 to Bart Owen in handicap chase at Navan (3m, heavy). WILLSFORD beat VICOMPT DE VALMONT (3lb worse off) 6l in 7-runner handicap chase at Warwick (3m 5f, soft). NATIVE PRIDE best effort this term beat Bibendum 7l in 6-runner handicap chase at Kempton (3m, soft).
Selection: WILLSFORD

4.40 LADBROKE HANDICAP HURDLE (£6,840: 2m 6f 110yd) (7 runners) — C4

1 1P-4226 TOP SPIN 58 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs E Long) J Jenkins 6-11-10 — N Williamson [illegible]
2 5-00443 PEANUTS PET 7 (F,G,S) (The Ivy Syndicate) T Tate 10-11-2 — R Garritty 91
3 F-54420 GAY RUFFIAN 28 (C,G,S) (B McHugh) A Jarvis 9-10-11 — W Marston 80
4 1-41210 NICK THE BEAK 28 (BF,S) (Sir Nicholas Wilson) J Upson 8-10-9 — R Supple 88
5 003-540 ACROW LINE 7F (D,S) (R Williams) D Burchell 10-10-5 — D J Burchell 90
6 422352 HIGH GRADE 21 (G,S) (Under Orders Racing III) Miss S Wilton 7-10-4 — T Eley (3) 94
7 050/F20- JIMBALOU 351 (D,F,G,S) (B Davies) R Brazington 12-10-0 — W Humphreys 86

Long handicap: Jimbalou 9-4.

BETTING: 5-2 Nick The Beak, 11-4 Top Spin, 3-1 Peanuts Pet, 6-1 High Grade, 8-1 Acrow Line, 14-1 Gay Ruffian, 25-1 Jimbalou.

1994: BICKERMAN 11-10-3 Miss T Spearing (11-2) J Spearing 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

TOP SPIN 31l 6th of 8 to Hebridean in grade 1 Long Walk Hurdle at Ascot (3m 1f 110yd, good). PEANUTS PET 6l 3rd of 14 to Heliopsis in handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m 7f 110yd, soft). GAY RUFFIAN 4l 2nd of 2 to Tourean Prince in handicap chase at Folkestone (2m 5f, soft) penultimate start. NICK THE BEAK beat Second Call ½l in handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m 5f, soft) penultimate start. ACROW LINE best effort this term 22l 4th of 10 to Second Call in handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, soft). HIGH GRADE ½l 2nd of 7 to Ask The Governor in handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m 5f, heavy) with Peanuts Pet (5lb better off) 16¼l 4th. JIMBALOU best effort last term ¾l 2nd to Desperate in handicap hurdle at Chepstow (3m, good).
Selection: TOP SPIN

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
C Mann	3	7	42.9	J Greenall	6	9	66.7
S Brookshaw	4	11	36.4	S Brookshaw	5	13	38.5
M Pipe	47	145	32.4	N Doughty	13	50	26.0
K Bailey	16	69	23.2	G McCourt	13	80	16.3
D Nicholson	11	51	21.6	D Gallagher	10	62	16.1
G Richards	17	83	20.5	N Williamson	19	126	15.1

Sprinter expects no favours in bid to set world indoor record

Regis banks on luck of the draw to tame track

By David Powell, athletics correspondent

RARELY, if ever before Olapade Adeniken managed it, has an athlete set a world best one weekend and, a week later, crossed the finishing-line last. The Nigerian's 100 metres indoor world best of 10.13sec, set in Johnson City, Tennessee, a fortnight ago, was followed by his last place in a 200 metres race in Stuttgart on Sunday.

Not that Adeniken should feel humiliated by his experience in Germany. He was last of only two athletes, and the winner was John Regis, in a British record time of 20.47sec.

Regis was motivated to run fast, knowing Adeniken can be as dangerous over 200 metres as he is over the shorter distance. "There were just two of us in the race, so you either won or you were last, and I did not fancy finishing last," Regis said.

There is no prospect of that today in the indoor match between Great Britain and France at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow. Solomon Wariso, in his first international since returning from a drugs ban, and the two Frenchmen will be running for second place. It is Regis against the clock, or rather against the track.

"Whoever designed that track was blind," Regis said this week. "Because of the design, the way the banks are made, it probably hinders sprinters a bit. Anywhere else you are probably worth two-tenths faster."

If Regis is correct, the Glasgow public may be denied a world record. Regis makes no attempt to conceal the fact that he is gunning for the world mark of 20.36sec, held by Bruno Marie-Rose, of France, since 1987.

"I am going all out for that world record," Regis said. However, Glasgow is the one place where he is confident of not breaking it. "At every track bar Glasgow, the best lanes are three, four and five," he said.

"At Glasgow, the best lanes are two and three. Four is too steep, five is Mount Everest. Lanes one, two and three are like three, four and five on any other major track."

Drawing lane one, two or three, though, would still not convince Regis that he can set a world record because he would have to run tighter bends. Regis holds the Glasgow track record, but it is only 20.74sec.

Defenders of the track will point out that Regis already has a quarter-share of a world record from a visit to Glasgow. In 1991, Linford Christie, Darren Braithwaite, Ade Mafe and Regis set a 4 x 200 metres record best of 1min 22.11sec.

Colin Shields, the records officer for the meeting today, noted that when Kelvin Hall staged the 1990 European indoor championships, 17 national records were set in the women's 200 metres. He does not discount a world record from Regis should he be drawn in lane three.

"When we do seeding, lane three is always for the fastest," Shields said. "It is the one which is neither too tight nor too high. I think you can set world records from lane three."

Regis, however, said that 20.50sec today would mean the world record was within his reach. The meeting to be held in Lievin, France, next Sunday would be his best opportunity: four of the eight quickest times, including Marie-Rose's mark, were set there.

After last summer, when injury ruled him out of the European championships and prevented him from giving Frankie Fredericks a close race in the Commonwealth Games, Regis, 28, is making up with a full indoor season. He is aiming to be world champion indoors and out and secure one, if not both, 200 metres world records.

He was world indoor champion in 1989 but has only a silver and bronze medal outdoors. "I believe the next three or four seasons will be the era of John Regis," the Belgrave Harrier said. "If I don't do it now, that's it, the fat lady will start singing." Regis should be the one on song today.

DENZIL McNEELANCE



Regis should bolster Britain's hopes of victory against France in Glasgow today

Fina plans positive action on drugs

By Craig Lord

AS SWIMMERS square up at the penultimate round of the World Cup at Ponds Forge, Sheffield, today, the race is on between swimming's international governing body (Fina), coaches and swimmers to see who can talk the toughest in the fight against drugs.

Jeff Rouse, the world record-holder at 100 metres backstroke, arrived from the United States yesterday with a swimmers' petition calling on Fina to take a tougher stance, while the American magazine, *Swimming World*, announced that the Pan Pacific Charter nations — America, Australia, Japan and Canada — will tomorrow bar China from the next Pan Pacific Games in response to the seven Chinese swimmers who tested positive for steroids last autumn.

Fina announced that it is to send a commission to China to investigate "the involvement of coaches, doctors and team leaders in the cases of drug abuse". The announcement was accompanied by a five-point plan of action that includes changing the wording of the "maximum" two-year suspension for first offences to "minimum", annulling records of those banned, imposing penalties on national federations that have swimmers who test positive, forming legislation that would force federations to investigate coaches, doctors and team leaders "in doping cases" and making drug tests obligatory within 48 hours of a world record.

Fina delegates will vote on the plan at an extraordinary congress in Rio de Janeiro, to coincide with the world short-course championships.

In Sheffield, Mark Foster will carry British hopes of World Cup success at butterfly and freestyle, although the return 100 metres backstroke race between Rouse and Martin Harris, of Great Britain, looks the highlight.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Early nerves fail to halt Hall's title progress

DARREN HALL, who has dominated English men's badminton for a decade, had to overcome early nerves and a first-game deficit before reaching the quarter-finals of the Bell Cablemedia English national championships at Norwich yesterday (Richard Eaton writes). Hall, who has lost to an Englishman only once in eight years, is attempting to increase to eight his record of singles titles, but found himself 8-13 down to Steve Isaac. He recovered to win 18-13, 15-4, then cruised into the last eight with a 15-3, 15-0 victory over Graham Hurrell. "I feel this is my tournament," Hall said, "but I was jittery." Olga Tchernysheva, 26, became the first Russian to play in the English national championships. Qualifying under the one-year domicile rule, she lost to Sarah Hore, an England international, 11-1, 11-4.

Cork fighting for fitness

CRICKET: Dominic Cork, the England A all-rounder, is struggling to be fit for the first one-day international against India A at Indore today. Cork is suffering from a flu-type complaint and missed practice yesterday afternoon, but will not make a decision on his fitness until this morning. The three-match series, which also includes games on Tuesday at Ahmedabad and a day-night match in Hyderabad on Thursday, should be a showcase for Cork to display the talents that have already won him five limited-overs international caps for England.

Faldo trails by six shots

GOLF: Nick Faldo was six strokes off the pace after a one-under-par 71 in the first round of the Buick Invitational at La Jolla, California, on Thursday. The lead was shared by Phil Mickelson, the 1993 winner, Joel Edwards, Dan Pohl, Chris DiMarco and Jerry Haas.

☐ Retief Goosen, of South Africa, equalled the course record of 65 in the second round of the South African Open in Johannesburg yesterday and leads by two shots.

NBA champions enlisted

BASKETBALL: The National Basketball Association (NBA) will send its leading team to the McDonald's championship, formerly known as the McDonald's Open, for the first time when the event is staged at the London Arena from October 19-21. Teams from the NBA have participated in the tournament since its inception in 1987, but it will be the first time that the champions of the United States have been committed to the event.

Smith pushed by Prenn

RACKETS: Neil Smith, the favourite, was pushed to the limit by John Prenn in the semi-final of the Lacoste British Open championships at Queen's Club yesterday. The fluent Prenn took the first two games before Smith increased the tempo to level at 2-2. Although Prenn led in the fifth, Smith's majestic strokeplay and weight of shot proved decisive as he took the next two 15-13, 15-3. Smith meets Willie Boone, conqueror of Peter Brake, in the final on Sunday.

Alpha One chases repeat

Point-to-point by Brian Beel

FARMERS' races are not uncommon in point-to-points, but the City of London race is unusual in being confined to owners and riders working in one specific location. First run in 1986, it is now one of the feature races at the **Tweseldown Club** meeting, the second to be held on a Sunday over the Hampshire course.

David Pease is taking last year's winner, Alpha One, to face stiff opposition from 28-year-old investment broker, Victoria Lyons, on her own Thamesdown Tootsie and Richard Russell's choice of Royal Day and Teatrader. Also in the line-up will be the race sponsor, Steven Astaire, on Yahoo, second in a Worcester hunter chase last season but who was pulled up at Larkhill three weeks ago.

Philip Scouller has ridden over 50 winners on this course and his total should be increased after the Club race. He will partner Roc De Prince, sixth in last year's Grand National, and a creditable third at Larkhill last Saturday.

The **Badsworth** have a nine-race card and with 42 in the Open this could increase to ten. Among those likely to be diverted from the Haydon, cancelled due to waterlogging, is Royal Jester, who ran his best race to date when splitting Miner's Melody and Davy Blake at Kelso.

Fantus needs another victory in an open race to qualify for the Cheltenham Foxhunters and this could come at the **South Dorset**. With Peter Bull having most of the Welstead stable's rides this year, Michael Miller is short on opportunities but should make the most of Tubbs in the Members'.

The former Jenny Pitman-trained Bilbo Baggins, was a most unfortunate loser on his point-to-point debut. He had made good progress in a maiden at Tweseldown to challenge at the last fence where he fell. Those who supported him then should be rewarded today in the second division of the Maiden at the **South Midlands Hunt Club**.

The Welsh season was due to start today with the Vale of Clettwr, but the meeting has been postponed until next Saturday, while the East Cornwall has been rearranged for Monday, February 20. The meeting which was scheduled for the Haydon today was lost earlier in the week, and they are applying for a rearranged fixture on April 26.

TODAY'S MEETINGS. Badsworth, Wetherby racecourse (first race 11.30); Easton Harriers, Higham, 7m NE of Colchester (12.00); South Dorset, Milborne St Andrew, 4m E of Puddletown (12.00); South Midlands Hunt Club, Heythrop, 2m E of Chipping Norton (12.00)

TOMORROW: Tweseldown Club, Tweseldown, 3m W of Aldershot (12.00)

CATTERICK

THUNDERER

1.55 D'Arblay Street. 2.25 Fabriana. 2.55 Dual Image. 3.25 Space Captain. 3.55 Barney Rubble. 4.25 Oat Couture. 4.55 Weaver George.

GOING: HEAVY SIS

1.55 GLADIATOR AMATEUR RIDERS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,067: 3m 1f 110yd) (9 runners)

1 22P3 SHOOFE 21 K Morgan 7-12-0 S Walker (7)
2 2152 D'ARBLAY STREET 22 (B,S) W Kemp 6-11-8 R Hale (5)
3 4/P5 NEW CHARGES 21 (G) P Beaumont 8-11-6 Mrs A Farrell
4 0-25 SOUTH WESTERLY 29 Mrs M Reveley 7-11-2 M H Naughton (7)
5 000P MARKED CARD 4 Mrs M Kendall 7-10-7 Mrs M Kendall (7)
6 005U RUSSIAN EMPIRE 34 N Walker 5-10-5 P Cooper (7)
7 P-RF ARTHUR BEE 9 B Bousfield 8-10-0 Mrs D Wilkinson (7)
8 3505 THE BLACK BISHOP 14 (B) L Lungo 7-10-0 D Parker (5)
9 0000 RUA ROS 22 Mrs S Smith 5-10-0 P Murray (7)

5-2 D'Arblay Street, 3-1 South Westerly, 4-1 Shoofe, 6-1 New Charges, 7-1 Russian Empire, 20-1 Marked Card, 25-1 others.

2.25 LEVY BOARD MARES ONLY NOVICES HURDLE (£2,520: 2m) (17)

1 11 FAMILIAR ART 22 (CD,G,S) G Moore 4-11-8 N Bentley
2 P0 BARRNACARRY BAY 26 D Garraton 8-11-4 M Hourigan
3 0-0 CASTLE ROUGE 56 D McCain 6-11-4 D McCain (5)
4 3400 EMERALD CHARM 67 J Charlton 7-11-4 B Storey
5 3 FABRIANA 31 T Naughton 5-11-4 R Davis
6 JUST PHYLLIS L Lloyd-James 5-11-4 B Harding (5)
7 5 MERRY MERMAID 47 J Bottomley 5-11-4 D Byrne
8 08 POLLY TWO 42 Mrs S Austin 5-11-4 D Wilkinson
9 00-6 SCILLY CAY 87 G Richards 6-11-4 M Moloney
10 5040 TOPOTHENORTHRACING 8 P Beaumont 5-11-4 L Wyer
11 003 BESCABY GIRL 22 J Wainwright 4-10-8 P Midgley (3)
12 P6 CHOWPOR 22 M Hammond 4-10-8 D Bentley
13 600 COPPERHURST 26 W Kemp 4-10-8 S McDougall
14 05 EMILYMOORE 8 P Beaumont 4-10-8 C Hawkins
15 MUSICAL VENTURE 227F K Morgan 4-10-8 A S Smith
16 F PEEP O DAY 22 Mrs M Reveley 4-10-8 R Hodge
17 U0S WHIRLWIND ROMANCE 8 W Kemp 4-10-8 J Supple (5)

2-1 Familiar Art, 7-2 Peep O Day, 9-2 Bescaby Girl, 6-1 Scilly Cay, 8-1 Fabriana, 10-1 Topothenorthracing, Polly Two, 12-1 others.

2.55 WHITBY NOVICES CHASE (£2,976: 2m) (9)

1 2141 GOLDEN ISLE 21 (CD,F,G,S) J Charlton 11-12-2 B Storey
2 2141 DUAL IMAGE 7 (D,F,G,S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-11-9 D Byrne
3 6561 NORTH PRIDE 21 (CD,F,S) M Barnes 10-11-9 2nd pref
4 F-45 ANOTHER RED 56 W Raw 7-11-2 M Hourigan
5 -284 BANCHORY 22 M W Easterby 6-11-2 L Wyer
6 4350 HIGHLAND POACHER 9 (S) D McCain 8-11-2 D McCain (5)
7 040F SCOTCH 'N IRISH 9 Mrs S Smith 6-11-2 Mr P Murray (7)
8 4P/ SPURIOUS 579 G Richards 9-11-2 M Moloney
9 -0P6 GOLDEN SAVANNAH 21 (S) M W Easterby 5-10-7 J Driscoll (7)

6-4 Dual Image, 11-4 Golden Isle, 4-1 Banchory, 6-1 Spurious, 10-1 Another Red, 16-1 others.

3.25 BRIDGE SELLING HURDLE (£2,059: 2m) (18)

1 18-0 HOT PUNCH 47 (S) H Alexander 6-11-10 D Thomas (7)
2 5R50 SPACE CAPTAIN 28 (G) G Moore 6-11-10 N Bentley
3 0P SOETHUS 9 F Walton 6-11-3 B Storey
4 0/P CONNOR THE SECOND 47 Mrs M Reveley 7-11-3 R Hodge
5 0462 FRIENDLY KNIGHT 42 J Haldane 5-11-3 B Harding (5)
6 /0- JOE BOO 243 O Brennan 9-11-3 M Brennan
7 6-42 MILTON ROOMS 21 D Garraton 6-11-3 A S Smith
8 P SEA PADDY 28 R Bastiman 7-11-3 H Bastiman (5)
9 0/ TOLMIN 630P G Moore 7-11-3 J Callaghan
10 4-00 UNCLE BENJI 54 J Parkes 6-11-3 D Bentley
11 0PP ZEPALIAS 26 J Jefferson 5-11-3 R Davis
12 5013 SUPERHOO 67 (BF,S) R Craggs 4-11-0 P McLoughlin (5)
13 06 ICANSPELL 8 W Storey 4-10-7 J Supple (5)
14 6450 JOYRIDER 12F Miss M Milligan 4-10-7 L Wyer
15 0F00 NOSMO KING 9 Mrs M Kendall 4-10-7 Mrs M Kendall
16 46 CRUISING CHICK 36 S Norton 4-10-2 O Pears
17 GLENVALLY 12F B Murray 4-10-2 D Byrne
18 ROSY LYDGATE 36F S Kettlewell 4-10-2 S Taylor (7)

4-1 Friendly Knight, 5-1 Space Captain, 6-1 Milton Rooms, 7-1 Superhoo, 8-1 Cruising Chick, Joyrider, 10-1 Icanspell, 12-1 others.

3.55 CATTERICK COURSE WITH CHARACTER GRAND NATIONAL TRIAL (Handicap: £4,308: 3m 6f) (8)

1 -231 CHOCTAW 82 (C,F,G,S) P Beaumont 11-11-7 C Hawkins
2 1141 BARNEY RUBBLE 14 (G,S) D Whillans 10-11-2 B Harding (5)
3 5231 PRINCE YAZA 9 (F,G,S) J Curtis 8-11-2 L O'Hara
4 4-PU FEILE NA HINSE 86 (C,G,S) R Champion 12-11-1 M Hourigan
5 P424 CONCERT PAPER 9 (G,S) M H Easterby 11-10-8 L Wyer
6 4564 TRUELY ROYAL 21 (B,C,G,S) J Charlton 11-10-0 B Storey
7 16-5 TRY NEXT DOOR 91 (S) O Brennan 8-10-0 M Brennan
8 -PP6 PADDY MORRISSEY 8 J Haldane 8-10-0 J Callaghan

2-1 Barney Rubble, 3-1 Choctaw, 4-1 Prince Yaza, 7-1 Concert Paper, 8-1 Truely Royal, Feile Na Hinse, 12-1 Try Next Door, 20-1 Paddy Morrissey.

4.25 BROUGH HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,194: 2m 3f) (10)

1 2121 OAT COUTURE 9 (S) L Lungo 7-11-10 F Perratt (5)
2 4116 MEMORABLE 26 (G,S) J Hetherton 4-11-2 D Byrne
3 5515 IMA DELIGHT 9 (S) Mrs P Sly 8-11-2 R Marley
4 4311 INGLETONIAN 22 (CD,S) B Wilkinson 6-11-1 D Bentley
5 13 ZAMHAREER 70 (G) W Storey 4-10-10 J Supple (5)
6 000- MIAMI BEAR 268 (G) R Fahey 9-10-9 J Callaghan
7 /64 ANOTHER FOUNTAIN 7 J Dixon 9-10-7 L O'Hara
8 1/P- JOHN SHAW 530 (D,F,G) J Eyre 7-10-7 O Pears
9 4354 WHAT IF 9 (F,G,S) O Brennan 11-10-5 M Brennan
10 20P2 MANWELL 47 (S) B Temple 9-10-2 L Wyer

9-4 Oat Couture, 7-2 Ingletonian, 5-1 Ima Delight, 6-1 Memorable, 7-1 Manwell, 8-1 Zamhareer, 12-1 Another Fountain, 16-1 others.

4.55 ASKE HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,285: 2m) (7)

1 R533 DARING PAST 7 (CD,G,S) M Hammond 5-11-10 Mr C Bonner (5)
2 3101 THORNTON GATE 11 (D,G,S) M H Easterby 6-11-4 L Wyer
3 1-10 WEAVER GEORGE 14 (D,BF,F,G) J Hetherton 5-11-3 B Storey
4 0-23 LITTLE BROMLEY 77 (CD,S) A Barrow 5-11-2 Mr R Hale
5 6162 TWIN FALLS 21 (C,G) G Moore 4-10-7 J Callaghan
6 3F41 KING ATHELSTAN 21 (CD,G,S) K Morgan 7-10-5 A S Smith
7 -005 ARTIC WINGS 74 (D,G,S) O Brennan 7-10-4 M Brennan

3-1 Thornton Gate, [illegible] 4-1 Weaver George, 5-1 Twin Falls, 7-1 Little Bromley, Daring Past [illegible]

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: K Morgan, [illegible] Mrs P Sly, [illegible] Mrs M Reveley, 25 from [illegible] L Lungo, 7 [illegible] Jimmy Fitzgerald, 18 from 32 [illegible] from 75, 20.5%.

JOCKEYS: A S Smith, 6 winners from 23 rides, 27.6%; D Byrne, 7 from 47, 14.9%; N Bentley, 7 from 50, 14%; R Marley, 6 from 44 [illegible]; D Wilkinson, 4 from 35, 11.4%; Mrs A Farrell, 3 from 26, 11.5%.

AYR

THUNDERER

1.50 Media Messenger. 2.20 Sheelin Lad. 2.50 Milne's A Villain. 3.20 Ali's Alibi. 3.50 Up In Flames. 4.20 Nawrik. 4.50 Sarmatian.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES) SIS

1.50 MARTNAHAM MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,290: 2m) (13 runners)

1 6P BUSTER BEN 11 J Barclay 6-11-7 A Thornton
2 P000 CLAN REEL 11 (B) R Goldie 6-11-7 K Johnson
3 5-43 MEDIA MESSENGER 19F Denys Smith 6-11-7 P Waggott (5)
4 -3P5 MUSKET SHOT 28 Mrs S Bradburne 7-11-7 Mr J Bradburne
5 NOBLE ROBIN R McKellar 8-11-7 R Hodge
6 6-50 RACHAEL'S OWEN 8 T Dyer 5-11-7 D J Moffatt (3)
7 -PF0 THOMAS RAND 28 M Dods 6-11-7 J Burke
8 0-0P CRAIGIE RAMBLER 14 D Robertson 6-11-2 I Jardine (7)
9 -00U KIRSTY'S PEACH 47 J Goldie 6-11-2 A Watt (7)
10 P066 MEADOWLECK 14 W Young 6-11-2 R Murphy (7)
11 P0 MILLEMAY 29 P Monteith 5-11-2 G Cahill (7)
12 0 NAUGHTY NESSIE 143 T Dyer 5-11-2 A Linton (7)
13 0-05 YOUANDI 11 L Lungo 5-11-2 T Reed

5-4 Media Messenger, 3-1 Youandi, 6-1 Musket Shot, 8-1 Naughty Nessie, 10-1 Meadowleck, 12-1 Millemay, 14-1 others.

2.20 MARCHBURN NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,933: 2m 4f) (6)

1 U331 SHEELIN LAD 14 (C,S) L Lungo 7-11-10 T Reed
2 /0- VESTAL HILLS 387 (G) D McCune 9-11-6 K Johnson
3 501 FORDSTOWN 9 (G) J Barclay 6-11-4 A Thornton
4 6561 NORTH PRIDE 21 (F,S) M Barnes 10-10-7 G Cahill (7)
5 4F05 PIT PONY 11 (G,S) D Robertson 11-10-3 J Burke
6 -0PP CORBY KNOWE 14 J Barclay 9-10-0 A Wallwork (7)

1-2 Sheelin Lad, 7-2 North Pride, 7-1 Fordstown, 12-1 Vestal Hills, 14-1 Pit Pony, 50-1 Corby Knowe

2.50 WHITLETTS AMATEUR RIDERS CLAIMING HURDLE (£2,222: 2m 4f) (6)

1 0-00 ASK ME LATER 21 Mrs S Bradburne 6-11-13 J Bradburne (3)
2 -0P6 GLINDIGO 21 (G,S) P Monteith 7-11-7 A Manners (7)
3 62-F THARSIS 9 (D,F,G) W Smith 10-11-7 J Beardsall (7)
4 0000 HARGOLD LAD 11 R McKellar 5-11-3 J Dalahunt (7)
5 2610 MILNE'S A VILLAIN 29 (C,BF,G,S) T Dyer 4-11-2 C Bonner (5)
6 -65P HAMANAKA 47 (S) J Love 6-11-0 S Love (7)

6-4 Milne's A Villain, 2-1 Glindigo, 7-2 Tharsis, 10-1 Ask Me Later, 14-1 Hamanaka, 20-1 Hargold Lad

3.20 MELLERAYS BELLE CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£5,361: 2m 4f) (2)

1 1112 ALI'S ALIBI 47 (BF,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-10 P Niven
2 F233 FUNNY OLD GAME 14 (CD,S) D McCune 8-10-3 K Johnson

1-6 Ali's Alibi, 9-2 Funny Old Game.

3.50 CARWINSHOCH JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,285: 2m) (7)

1 4121 GALANT DES EPEIRES 68 (D,G,S) Mrs S Bramall 11-12 J Burke
2 0021 LIVIO 9 (S) L Lungo 11-5 T Reed
3 P LUCKY NOD 122 E Owen jun 10-12 NON-RUNNER
4 30 RUNNING GREEN 8 T Dyer 10-12 D J Moffatt (3)
5 52 UP IN FLAMES 11 M Hammond 10-12 P Niven
6 WATER BARON 235F A Whillans 10-12 K Johnson
7 5 MARY'S FEELINGS 22 T Dyer 10-7 A Linton (7)

Evens Livio, 6-4 Up In Flames, 8-1 Galant Des Epeires, 12-1 Mary's Feelings, 16-1 Running Green, 33-1 Water Baron.

4.20 CARSPHAIRN HANDICAP CHASE (£2,866: 3m 1f) (6)

1 2155 CELTIC SONG 14 (D,G,S) W Reed 8-11-10 —
2 0455 CAROUSEL ROCKET 26 (C,F,G,S) M Hammond 12-11-6 P Niven
3 1366 DUCHESS OF TUBBER 9 (CD,S) R Fisher 7-11-6 A Thornton
4 32F5 NAWRIK 9 (D,BF,S) L Lungo 6-10-12 T Reed
5 3244 BOREEN OWEN 47 (B,G,S) J J O'Neill 11-10-9 R McGrath (7)
6 4564 TRUELY ROYAL 21 (B,D,G,S) J Charlton 11-10-8 2nd pref

9-4 Carousel Rocket, 3-1 Celtic Song, 4-1 Nawrik, 6-1 Duchess Of Tubber, Boreen Owen, 7-1 Truely Royal.

4.50 FISHERTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,696: 2m) (6)

1 -P40 SAYPAREE 8 (CD,F,G,S) W Reed 10-11-10 T Reed
2 0004 CLURICAN 14 (D,S) N Tinkler 6-11-5 E Husband (5)
3 1455 BACK BEFORE DAWN 21 (D,G,S) P Monteith 8-10-11 G Cahill (7)
4 1 SARMATIAN 68 (D,F) M Hammond 4-10-3 P Niven
5 4414 NICHOLAS PLANT 11 (C,S) J Goldie 6-10-1 A Watt (7)
6 4240 EXPLORE MONDIAL 14 (BF) T Dyer 4-10-0 A Thornton (3)

2-1 Clurican, 11-4 Back Before Dawn, 4-1 Sarmatian, 9-2 Nicholas Plant, 6-1 Explore Mondial, 16-1 Sayparee

COURSE SPECIALISTS

AYR: Trainers: Mrs M Reveley, 33 winners from 113 runners, 29.2%; J J O'Neill, 18 from 79, 22.1%; J Goldie, 3 from 16, 18.8%; M Hammond, 11 from 73, 15.1%; M Barnes, 4 from 29, 13.8%; D McCune, 3 from 24, 12.5%. Jockeys: P Niven, 38 winners from 141 rides, 27.0%; A Thornton, 3 from 21, 14.3%; Mr J Bradburne, 6 from 48, 12.5%; T Reed, 12 from 116, 10.3%. Only qualifiers.

LINGFIELD PARK: Trainers: K McAuliffe, 6 winners from 23 runners, 26.1%; W Jarvis, 7 from 27, 25.9%; P Cole, 21 from 86, 24.7%; Lord Huntingdon, 28 from 125, 22.4%; J Berry, 19 from 87, 21.8%; M Prescott, 17 from 82, 20.7%. Jockeys: J Weaver, 34 winners from 152 rides, 22.4%; Dean McKeown, 25 from 122, 20.5%; G Duffield, 22 from 108, 20.4%; R Cochrane, 26 from 157, 16.6%; W Woods, 9 from 68, 13.2%; D Harrison, 18 from 156, 11.5%.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

2.05 Dancing Diamond. 2.35 Dark Shot. 3.05 Legal Fiction. 3.35 Grand Selection. 4.05 Tribal Peace. 4.35 Respectable Jones.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.05 Moonstrike. 3.35 GRAND SELECTION (nap).

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 7F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.05 RED ROSE SELLING HANDICAP (£2,461: 1m 5f) (13 runners)

1 0P/ QUADRANT 439 (C,G) A Moore 6-10-0 Candy Morris 11
2 210- SLEEPTITE 81 (G) W G M Turner 5-9-9 J D Smith (5) 2
3 00/ AVIATOR'S DREAM 482 J Pearce 5-9-6 G Bardwell 9
4 -231 DANCING DIAMOND 9 (CD,G) Miss B Sanders 5-9-6 S Sanders (3) 3
5 -434 INTENTION 12 (V,BF) I Campbell 5-9-6 R Cochrane 7
6 01/2 SO DISCREET 9 (F) J White 7-9-4 S Drowne (5) 5
7 214- CALL ME ALBI 105J (F) G L Moore 4-9-3 A Clark 12
8 0C0/ PIERRE BLANCO 24J (B) M Bradstock 6-8-11 N Carlisle 4
9 00-6 JOLLY SWAGMAN 19 Lord Huntingdon 4-8-6 D Harrison 10
10 /46 NOTHING DOING 14 (B) W Musson 6-8-5 P McCabe (5) 8
11 04-1 SIDE BAR 9 (B,CD,F,G) M Ryan 5-8-4 D Biggs 13
12 00-5 ANN HILL 9 (C,F,G) R Hollinshead 5-7-11 A Eddery (7) 1
13 56-0 CRISTAL SPRINGS 32 B McMath 4-7-7 J Quinn 6

3-1 Side Bar, 7-2 Dancing Diamond, 5-1 So Discreet, 6-1 Call Me Albi, 7-1 Sleeptite, 8-1 Intention, 12-1 Ann Hill, Nothing Doing, 14-1 others.

2.35 ROMEO CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,713: 7f) (6)

1 13-5 DARK SHOT 17 (CD,G) J Berry 9-0 G Carter 4
2 00-2 WARRIOR LADY 19 P McBride 8-9 Justine Reader (7) 5
3 5-22 IRIE MON 14 J Hills 8-8 R Cochrane 3
4 2-50 LOGIE 21 M Jarvis 8-6 W Woods 6
5 5 DEATH BY CHOCOLATE 14 J Scargill 8-0 D Wright (3) 1
6 030- FAIR ELLA 56 J Ffitch-Heyes 7-9 J Quinn 2

9-4 Dark Shot, 3-1 Irie Mon, 7-2 Logie, 6-1 Death By Chocolate, 7-1 Warrior Lady, 8-1 Fair Ella.

3.05 JACK & JILL COLE HANDICAP (£3,589: 1m) (7)

1 065- MY BEST VALENTINE 72J (F,G) J White 5-10-0 S Drowne (5) 2
2 2-12 RED VALERIAN 21 (B,CD,F,G) K McAuliffe 4-9-12 R Cochrane 6
3 01-0 METAL STORM 31 (CD,G,S) K Cunningham-Brown 7-9-12 A Clark 1
4 30-1 MOON STRIKE 16 (C,F,G) W Jarvis 5-9-9 J Weaver 5
5 -111 LEGAL FICTION 3 (D,G) M Johnston 4-9-4 (5ex) T Williams 4
6 23-5 CONSPICUOUS 10 (G) L Cottrell 5-8-5 N Carlisle 3
7 -111 KINNEGAD KID 21 (CD,G,S) R Ingram 6-7-13 D Wright (3) 7

5-2 Kinnegad Kid, 3-1 Legal Fiction, 7-2 Moon Strike, 4-1 Red Valerian, 7-1 My Best Valentine, 16-1 Conspicuous, 25-1 Metal Storm.

3.35 DAILY STAR AWT 1M 2F CHALLENGE SERIES HANDICAP (Qualifier: 3-Y-O: £3,153: 1m 2f) (13)

1 -221 PERSIAN CONQUEST 11 (B,CD,G) R Ingram 9-12 W Woods 6
2 -121 GRAND SELECTION 19 (G) M Bell 9-7 M Fenton 9
3 -132 GOOD SO FA 18 (C,G) C Allen 9-0 E Guest 8
4 5-35 WITNEY-DE-BERGERAC 14 (G) J Moore 8-13 R Hughes 3
5 06-4 DOCKLANDS COURIER 16 B McMath 8-5 R Cochrane 10
6 45-2 VINDALOO 12 M Johnston 8-2 T Williams 2
7 584- FRAMLEY GARTH 42 M Prescott 8-1 G Duffield 7
8 -555 ROWLANDSONS SILVER 11 (B) D Murray Smith 7-12 C Rutter 13
9 500- GREEN GREEN RUBY 143 G L Moore 7-12 J Quinn 4
10 00-0 MARONETTA 16 M Ryan 7-9 D Biggs 5
11 66-0 MAYDAY KITTY 40 (V) W G M Turner 7-8 S Lanigan (7) 12
12 00-0 FRIAR'S OAK 19 M Tompkins 7-8 D Wright (3) 11
13 0-00 PLUCKY PET 18 C Benstead 7-7 M Baird (5) 1

3-1 Grand Selection, 7-2 Persian Conquest, 4-1 Good So Fa, 5-1 Vindaloo, 8-1 Witney-De-Bergerac, Framley Garth, 10-1 Good So Fa, 12-1 others.

4.05 JULIET MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,995: 1m 2f) (8)

1 62-5 PENNINE WIND 35 (BF) M Johnston 9-0 R Cochrane 6
2 4 SEMI SERIOUS 14 W Jarvis 9-0 T Ives 4
3 022- TRIBAL PEACE 105 B Gubby 9-0 J Stack (5) 5
4 0-23 WISDOM 8 (B) P Cole 9-0 C Rutter 1
5 YET AGAIN B Hanbury 9-0 M Rimmer 8
6 633- CHASTLETON 143 M Channon 8-9 Candy Morris 2
7 ROCKY FORUM G L Moore 8-9 R Perham 3
8 0 SLYBIRD 25 M Ryan 8-9 A Clark 7

5-2 Wisdom, 3-1 Yet Again, 4-1 Semi Serious, 5-1 Tribal Peace, 6-1 Pennine Wind, 10-1 Chastleton, 20-1 Rocky Forum, Slybird.

4.35 DEMPSTER'S DIARY HANDICAP (£3,081: 7f) (12)

1 006- KINGCHIP BOY 100 (V,C,D,F,G) M Ryan 6-9-12 A Clark 9
2 2631 DIGPAST 7 (B,CD,G) R O'Sullivan 5-9-9 D Biggs 3
3 4303 ALJAZ 15 (BF,G) D Thom 5-9-6 A Mackay 8
4 -016 LETSBEONESTABOUTIT 7 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 9-9-6 Dean McKeown 11
5 5152 RAGAZZO 7 (B,CD,G) K Cunningham-Brown 5-9-0 L Charnock 7
6 -204 RESPECTABLE JONES 9 (CD,BF,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 9-9-0 R Gordon (7) 4
7 55-6 SHARPENING 29 (V,C,D,G,S) Lord Huntingdon 4-8-13 D Harrison 5
8 -006 PANCHELLITA 7 (V,D,F,G) G L Moore 6-8-11 S Whitworth 6
9 3-00 POSSIBILITY 9 (B,D,F) R Ingram 4-8-3 W Woods 1
10 0-00 SCOTS LAW 7 (CD,F,G) J Long 8-7-13 N Adams 2
11 -006 PAIR OF JACKS 9 (G) D Wilson 5-7-10 G Bardwell 12
12 0-40 WHATONE BELL 18 P Hayward 5-7-7 D Wright (3) 10

7-2 Digpast, 9-2 Ragazzo, 5-1 Aljaz, 6-1 Kingchip Boy, 7-1 Respectable Jones, 8-1 Letsbeonestaboutit, 10-1 Sharpening, Scots Law, 12-1 others.

Champion trampled

BOB CHAMPION was badly bruised after being trampled by a horse in an accident at Newbury yesterday. The former jockey turned trainer, who recovered from cancer to win the Grand National on Aldaniti in 1981, was knocked down as he led his own horse up at the start of the Hampshire Handicap Chase.

As Champion released Mr Felix he stepped into the path of Bold Choice, ridden by Jimmy Frost, who lost nearly 20 lengths and all chance of winning in the collision. But no false start was called.

"I didn't have a chance to see the horse," Champion said. "My horse jinked half a stride and Jimmy's horse knocked me over. He hurt me too. I got kicked everywhere. I've always led this horse into the start. I feel bruised and battered but I've been in the mud before." The stewards held an inquiry into the incident but took no action.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Newbury

Going: heavy

2.00 (2m 1f ch) 1, AUBURN CASTLE (J Osborne, 9-4); 2, Juleit Jones (B Powell, 20-1); 3, Barna Boy (M A Fitzgerald, 4-5 fav). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Maestro Paul (5th), 10 Manaree (4th), 66 Just (f). 6 ran. 13l, 4l, dist, nk. O Sherwood at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £3.20; £2.40, £2.60. DF: £32.80. CSF: £32.06.

2.30 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, ANZUM (A Maguire, 30-100 fav); 2, Karline Ka (D Meredith, 50-1); 3, Veryvel (D Gallagher, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 14 Pampered Guest (4th). 4 ran. 20l, dist, 20l. D Nicholson at Temple Guiting. Tote: £1.30. DF: £11.40. CSF: £8.05.

3.00 (2m 1f ch) 1, BIG MATT (M A Fitzgerald, 7-4 fav, Richard Evans's nap); 2, Mr Felix (B Powell, 3-1); 3, Bold Choice (J Frost, 5-2). ALSO RAN: 5 Dr Rocket (4th). 4 ran. 3½l, 8l, 25l. N Henderson at Lambourn. Tote: £2.10. DF: £3.30. CSF: £6.38.

3.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, COOL RELATION (Mr A Phillips, 9-2); 2, Duncan (Mr B Pollock, 11-4 fav); 3, Green Times (Capt W B Ramsey, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Fit For Firing (4th), 9 Carrickmines (pu), The Jogger (5th), 16 Sweatshirt (pu), 33 Bee Garden (pu), 50 Forest Ranger (pu). 9 ran. Dist, dist, 14l, 25l. D Caro at Malmesbury. Tote: £4.90; £1.90, £1.10, £1.90. DF: £6.30. Trio: £8.60. CSF: £16.03.

4.00 (2m 5f hdle) 1, STAR PLAYER (M A Fitzgerald, 5-1); 2, Sendai (P Hide, 8-1); 3, Second Call (R Farrant, 7-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Googly (4th), 8 Reahin (5th), 10 Riva (pu), 66 Henryk (pu). 7 ran. 10l, 1¼l, 6l, hd. R Baker at Tiverton. Tote: £4.50; £3.30, £4.10. DF: £17.40. CSF: £38.25.

4.30 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, MUNTAFI (M Perrett, 10-1); 2, Dress Dance (Miss S Mitchell, 33-1); 3, Ranzel (J F Titley, 9-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Phrose (4th), 6 Mendip Son, 8 Lyme Gold, 10 Flapjack Lad (5th), 12 Abavard (pu), 14 Tickerty's Gift, 16 Captain Bert, Lodestone Lad, 20 Kennett Square, 25 Bally Parson, 33 Mariners Cove, No Near Miss (6th). 15 ran. 4l, 4l, 1¼l, 20l, 9l. G Harwood at Pulborough. Tote: £7.00; £2.60, £13.10, £1.90. DF: £269.10. Trio: £3,383.60 (0.72 winning tickets, pool of £1,334.40 carried forward to 3.15 at Newbury today). CSF: £257.38. Tricast: £2,764.91.

Jackpot: £4,693.90.

Placepot: £209.90. Quadpot: £96.60.

Southwell

Going: standard

2.10 (1m 4f) 1, Killing Time (M Fenton, Evens fav); 2, Port Sunlight (6-1); 3, Manolete (12-1). 7 ran. 1¼l, ½l. Mrs N Macauley. Tote: £1.80; £1.40, £3.20. DF: £5.30. CSF: £7.35.

2.40 (1m) 1, Roar On Tour (R Cochrane, 5-1); 2, Harry Browne (11-4 fav); 3, Profit Release (6-1). 11 ran. NR: The Real Whizzbang. 2l, ½l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £4.90; £1.50, £1.10, £2.80. DF: £6.80. Trio: £11.60. CSF: £18.90. Tricast: £78.05.

3.10 (7f) 1, Twin Creeks (R Cochrane, 16-1); 2, Nite-Owl Dancer (9-1); 3, Spanish Stripper (16-1). Anjou Evens fav. 13 ran. NR: Miss Jemmima. 4l, 1¼l. M Hammond. Tote: £27.50; £8.30, £3.60, £4.70. DF: £62.90. CSF: £151.49.

3.40 (6f) 1, PC'S Cruiser (D R McCabe, 11-1); 2, Posted Abroad (5-4 fav); 3, Portland (11-8). 5 ran. NR: Russian Heroine. 2l, 3½l. M Chapman. Tote: £6.90; £2.40, £1.40. DF: £5.70. CSF: £24.67.

4.10 (6f) 1, Joyful Times (Amanda Sanders, 20-1); 2, Dowdency (12-1); 3, Superbit (5-1). Presto Boy 3-1 fav. 13 ran. Sh hd, sh hd. Mrs N Macauley. Tote: £23.30; £3.50, £4.30, £2.40. DF: £121.10. CSF: £225.23. No bid.

4.40 (2m) 1, Who's The Best (N Varley, 5-1); 2, Risky Tu (20-1); 3, Absalom's Pillar (11-1). Jolis Absent 4-1 fav. 15 ran. NR: Poetic Form. 2l, 4l. A Jarvis. Tote: £4.30; £2.90, £5.90, £3.30. DF: £343.00. Trio: £345.30. CSF: £94.57. Tricast: £985.05.

Placepot: £292.50. Quadpot: £88.30 (0.40 winning tickets; pool of £71.64 carried forward to Newbury today).

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	40	105	good	varied	fair	sun	2	9/2
(Generally good skiing, all 64 lifts open)								
Mayrhofen	10	85	fair	varied	closed	fine	3	9/2
(5cm of fresh snow on hard base, all lifts open)								
FRANCE								
Courchevel	160	280	good	powder	good	sun	-9	9/2
(Excellent piste skiing with powder available)								
Flaine	150	270	good	powder	good	fine	5	9/2
(Dream conditions with fresh powder everywhere)								
La Plagne	165	300	good	powder	good	sun	4	9/2
(Excellent skiing on all pistes above 1,500m)								
Tignes	200	265	good	powder	good	fine	-8	9/2
(Fantastic skiing conditions, beautiful powder)								
Val d'Isère	160	350	good	powder	good	sun	0	9/2
(Fantastic skiing, superb powder conditions)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	80	250	good	varied	fair	fine	1	9/2
(Great skiing, warm sunshine)								
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	85	110	good	powder	good	fine	0	9/2
(Pistes in excellent shape, powder in plentiful supply)								
C Montana	110	325	good	powder	fair	fair	5	8/2
(Good skiing, powder available, no crowds)								
Grindelwald	25	150	good	powder	icy	fine	-1	9/2
(All runs well groomed with plenty of snow)								
Mürren	80	170	good	varied	good	sun	3	9/2
(Excellent skiing in all areas)								
Wengen	25	110	good	powder	good	fine	3	9/2
(Fresh snow and excellent skiing, all pistes superb)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

Saturday portrait: Chris Boardman by Andrew Longmore

Speed king prepares for uphill struggle in pursuit of glory

ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE MARTIN



The main square in Lille on a hot July afternoon. Children bathe in the fountain outside the arts museum, their parents watching idly. A commentary echoes through the tight streets, heralding the start of the 81st Tour de France. Today is the prologue, a 7.2km time-trial, good for sponsors, but knockabout stuff for the main contenders, entertaining small talk before the dealing begins. There is silence, then a shout from the commentator, rising to a scream. "Chrees Board-Man". The last two syllables are accented equally, the "e" of the first stretched to breaking.

The children stop playing for a moment, spectators wake from their reverie and peer down the Boulevard de la Liberté at a single figure, dressed in the light blue and white of the Gan team, thrashing his way through the heat haze. The time, flashed up on the clock above the street, is impossible, nearly 30 seconds quicker than the leader.

As the rider crosses the line, Roger Legeay, the sardonic, chain-smoking manager of the Gan team, hugs his public relations officer in a spontaneous and comic embrace. The gamble has paid off. The rookie *rosbif* has delivered. Boardman, in his first day on *Le Tour*, has won the yellow jersey.

Eleven days later, as expected, Boardman left the Tour, the victim of inexperience as much as fatigue and the intense heat. But he had made enough of an impact to suggest that, within the next three years, the scene enacted in Lille could be transposed to the streets of Paris on the final day.

An Englishman winning the Tour de France? Apart from Boardman himself and Legeay, there are good judges who believe he has all the right qualities: strength, power, endurance, intelligence, determination. Legeay thinks Boardman could finish in the top ten this year, which would put him well ahead of schedule. Miguel Indurain, winner of the Tour for the past four years, ended his first two Tours in the dreaded broom-wagon, the bus which sweeps up the stragglers.

Tonight, Boardman will take a detour from his chosen route in a 4,000-metre pursuit race against Tony Rominger, the world No 1, at the new national cycling centre in Manchester. In the wider scheme of the season, this is an irrelevant, if lucrative, sideshow, a return to roots, a reminder of the Olympic gold won three years ago in Barcelona on a supersonic bike beneath a space-age helmet.

But victory over the Swiss rider would do no harm to Boardman's morale as he faces up to the most arduous year of his career and provide reassurance that the man who shattered the world one-hour record — with a speed nearly two miles an hour faster than Boardman's own successful attempt in 1993 — has two arms and two legs, just like everybody else.

Boardman's prospects of becoming the first Englishman to win the

> 'To win the Tour de France, you need to be a jack of all trades, but master of none'

Tour hinge on a piece of machinery at the Bebington Oval Sports Centre on the Wirral where, in the absence of a suitable mountain on the Cheshire plains, he simulates the sort of numbing, relentless, labour he will endure in the Alps next summer. Forty-five minutes at 18kph on a 9 per cent gradient.

He has been tinkering with his riding position, sitting further back on his saddle, pulling at the handlebars rather than resting on them. He denies that it is a little late in life to be changing such fundamentals. "Everything is trainable," he says. He has studied videos of Indurain and Rominger, among others, to see how they do it, but he will adapt his own riding style, not copy theirs. One of Boardman's mottos is: "If you follow the guy in front, you will always finish second."

Boardman just needs to survive in the mountains, conserve his energy and learn not to lose the time he should have won in the time-trials on the flat. "It is all a matter of compromise," he said. "To win the Tour, you need to be a jack of all trades, but master of none." What perturbed him last year was that his pulse rate reached a mere 152 on climbs and he still suffered. Usually, he can maintain a rate of 175-180 for the duration of a tough time-trial.

This winter, Boardman, together with his long-standing coach, Peter Keen, a lecturer in sports science at the University of Brighton, has been using a power crank, a gadget which measures strain, power output, heart rate and speed to monitor what for cars is called torque. Boardman's torque at the top end is second to none; at the lower end, in his own words, he "gets a hammering".

It is partly a matter of experience, but the appliance of science to his own considerable natural talent has been at the heart of Boardman's success and it is attention to detail, this understanding of the workings of his body, that gives Boardman an even-money chance of completing the transformation from 4km track rider to 4,000km road racer, the equivalent of making Linford Christie run a marathon. By the summer, Boardman, 1.75m tall, will have trimmed his weight from 71 to 68 kilos; by next year, to 66.

So impressed has Legeay been with Boardman's training techniques, he has largely left him to work alone, which suits the Englishman's temperament as well as his homing instincts. Unlike the Irishmen, Stephen Roche and Sean Kelly, who both moved to the Continent, Boardman will be based in England.

He moved into a new house near Hoylake late last year, with his wife, Sally, and three young children, Edward, Harriet and George. Better to risk the suspicion of his team-mates than to leave the lanes where he first knew cycling on the back of his father's bike and where he began his career with the North Wirral Velo Club 13 years ago.

He is still involved with the club, helping with sponsorship and advice, approachable as he is with fans and the press. Yet his instinct for standing out from the crowd extends beyond his physical ability. When Mike Burrows, a designer, was trying to sell his concept of a monobladed superbike in the Eighties, Boardman was the only one to give it a go.

The result of the experiment was a series of world records at the 4km pursuit in Barcelona, the first individual Olympic gold by a British rider since 1908 and vengeance for Boardman, whose father, Keith, had narrowly missed selection for the 1964 Games. The press found the combination of British technical wizardry and cabinet-maker from Hoylake irresistible.

Boardman's Lotus bike briefly became a *cause célèbre* for the parlous state of British industry. But winning gold brought Boardman face-to-face with his own future. Either he could progress and turn professional or stay still and win another gold. With some misgivings, because he admits to riding for the enjoyment of winning, not for the fun of it — "cycling is hard, it hurts and it's dangerous", he says — he chose the former and prepared himself for life on the chain gang.

Again, he took no chances. He broke the world one-hour record in Bordeaux the day the Tour hit town. Had he stood outside the town hall wearing his gold medal and a sandwich-board saying, "Come and get me", he could not have advertised his services more explicitly.

Four stage wins during the season, three days in the yellow jersey and victory in the 4,000 metres pursuit world championships marked an exceptional first year as a professional. More will be expected this year, much more. Boardman, at 26, estimates he has learnt 35 per cent of what he needs to know to win the Tour. The rest might reflect on their chances if he ever completes his education.

O'Sullivan proves a match for old hand

BY PHIL YATES

IN SNOOKER it is not uncommon for the tortoise to beat the hare. Terry Griffiths has utilised table craft, methodical precision and watertight safety to beat many a young buck over the years but yesterday that was not enough.

The hare, in the form of Ronnie O'Sullivan, reached the semi-finals of the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley Conference Centre by beating Griffiths 5-2.

O'Sullivan, attempting to supersede Stephen Hendry as the youngest winner in the 21-year history of the Masters, did not play with his customary fluency but Griffiths was unable to reproduce the form which saw him beat Steve Davis 5-3 in the previous round.

"I'm grafting but nothing's coming easy for me," O'Sullivan said. "The thing I've learnt this week is that good preparation is vital. I feel fresh and alert and that's helping me to think clearly."

Griffiths, winner of the 1980 Masters, wasted a number of early opportunities and O'Sullivan took a 3-1 lead with a break of 83 in the fourth. He added a run of 65 to capture the next and, although Griffiths kept the match alive by winning the sixth, his comeback stopped there.

O'Sullivan, who meets Hendry or Peter Ebdon in the semi-finals, believes that, although he is not at his peak, it is only a matter of being patient and sticking rigidly to the stricter practice regime he has adopted this year.

"It will come, it's just when. It's so easy to have a curry at 3 o'clock in the morning, get up feeling terrible and say you'll practise tomorrow, but tomorrow never comes. I don't want to be an also-ran," he said.

The composition of the other semi-final this afternoon was decided on Thursday evening when Jimmy White, playing well in bursts but still prone to inconsistency, beat James Wattana 5-3. White now meets John Higgins.

RESULTS: Quarter-finals: J White (Eng) bt J Wattana (Tha) 5-3, R O'Sullivan (Eng) bt T Griffiths (Wales) 5-2.

Full-strength Wigan seeking to extend cup monopoly

St Helens challenge the trend

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

ALL the fervour and fanaticism stirred by meetings between Wigan and St Helens is strangely at odds with the predictability that has come to characterise the most famous rugby league rivalry, especially in the Challenge Cup.

On the way to winning the Silk Cut competition for the past seven seasons, Wigan have defeated St Helens on five occasions, including the 1989 and 1991 finals. If the trend is reversed in the televised fourth-round tie today, it will be the first time since 1977 that St Helens have overcome their neighbours in the cup.

Form and history conspire against St Helens and, with Wigan odds-on favourites at an astonishing 10-11 to maintain their cup monopoly, the bookmakers have instantly dismissed Saints' chances.

Shane Cooper is not quite as pessimistic. The St Helens captain has started in all five defeats during Wigan's Challenge Cup reign. "No, I wouldn't have chosen them at this stage," he said. "But who would?"

This year, the entry of the first-division clubs is marked by contests between six of the seven leading sides, which is likely to leave half twiddling their thumbs until the Premiership in May, and Wigan rubbing their hands. Their crushing form has raised more awkward questions about standards elsewhere.

Ominously, Wigan can call upon their entire international contingent for one of the few occasions this season. Moreover, the return from injury of Andrew Farrell and Jason Robinson offers England further options for the European championship encounter with France next week.

With six first-choice players definitely absent, St Helens might gamble on the fitness of Scott Gibbs and Alan Hunte. Bobby Goulding, Steve Prescott and Jon Neill are back, but for the sledgehammer to be frustrated by the nut, the



Robinson: ready to play

visitors will need far more luck than they have had going for them of late.

Historically, Leeds and Bradford Northern has been a more evenly contested cup derby. Leeds, with due respect to the rest, are the only team capable of interrupting Wigan's momentum, although Bradford were the last side to win at Headingley, last April.

Garry Schofield passed a fitness test and is in an unchanged Leeds line-up. Karl Fairbank is back for Bradford, as are Roger Simpson and Neil Summers.

For Warrington and Castleford, a flagging season hangs or falls by a tie rich in promise. Warrington had the edge last month, and the side that hammered Doncaster is unchanged. In spite of the return of Graham Steadman, injury and suspension continue to hamper Castleford, although John Joyner, the coach, signed a new contract yesterday.

Halifax and Salford have tricky ties at Huddersfield and Hunslet respectively, but Wakefield have the least enviable task at Whitehaven, who brought embarrassment to Featherstone Rovers in the Regal Trophy two months ago. And what of Beverley? The last amateur survivors (5,000-1 for the Trophy) encounter Batley (200-1) at Hull. Having repeated their feat of 86 years previously by beating Highfield, a second professional scalp might be beyond them, but do not bet on it.

Mad Max adds chapter to these troubled times



SIMON BARNES

On Saturday

AS *L'AFFAIRE Cantona* rumbles on, so America reels under the Vernon Maxwell Incident. Maxwell, stalwart of the Houston Rockets, and known as Mad Max for his volatile nature, set off in pursuit of a fan who had been abusing him throughout the game. Maxwell went 12 rows deep into the stands to find his man and punch him. Retribution has been swift: the National Basketball Association (NBA) has fined him $20,000 and suspended him for ten games; this equals the highest fine in NBA history and is the second-longest suspension.

Maxwell's lawyer, Dick De Guerin, said: "If I'd have been there, I'd probably have cold-clocked him, too." Steve George, the man who was hit, has denied saying anything inflammatory, but Maxwell said that George



had taken for his subject Maxwell's stillborn daughter. "The heckling would have made Mother Theresa hit out," De Guerin said.

Expensive shot

American sports, and a regrettable and growing number of British events, tend to feature a "mascot", a man dressed up in a silly suit to become an anthropomorphic dog or lion or some other beast, or perhaps a wacky cartoon character. His job is to be loved by children, to crank up home support, to mock at the visiting opposition in a "lovable" sort of way. Don Jackson, coach of the Cincinnati Cyclones, has been fined $1,000 and suspended for ten games for hitting a mascot. The incident, surely more worthy of praise than censure, occurred when Jackson grew irritated at "Sir Slapshot", mascot of the Atlanta Knights.

More trouble, this time at a basketball match in China. "This has never happened before in Nanjing." Li Chunxiang, president of the Jiangsu Basketball Association, said. Nanjing Army lost a four-point lead, and Liaoning went on to win, advancing to the semi-finals of the national championship. The crowd, incensed, bombarded the rivals with plastic bottles.

Over the top

Still more trouble: Kasey Keller, Millwall goalkeeper and United States international, was left somewhat shaken after the trouble at the match this week against Chelsea. "It's just not like that in America, where you get maybe the occasional streaker. But last night I saw elderly gentlemen absolutely screaming their heads off. I love the aspect of being emotional about football, but when it comes to hurting people, that's definitely going over the top."

Home worries

This column is still not clear of trouble for the week. I learn that the great footballer, Romario, has found more serious matters to worry him on his triumphal return to Brazil. Last week, I reported on his worries about his incipient baldness; he now faces two charges of affray, one against a middle-aged man in a restaurant, another connected with an under-age girl in a nightclub.

Little cheer

It had to happen: baseball strike, ice hockey strike, deep rumblings in basketball; and now the industrial might of the cheerleaders. The Buffalo Jills, cheerleaders for the Buffalo Bills of the National Football League (NFL), have won the legal right to establish their own union. There are 36 Jills in all, and they say they are mistreated by their managing company, which is a chain of fast-food restaurants. They want better working conditions, more pay, and a louder voice in managing their careers away from the football field. "We view ourselves as a sport, or at least as a very large industry," Nancy Bates, seven years a Jill, said. "We need to protect our interests. It's about time NFL cheerleaders did this." The Jills get $25 for personal appearances, but they get only a free ticket for a friend as a reward for waving their pom-poms at games.

Youth policy

All is not lost. As Michael Atherton "implores" the selectors to support youth, so I hear about a deadly ploy to put English cricket back on top. Lombards finance company has become involved in youth cricket, and one of its projects is an under-14 national coaching weekend at Lilleshall in April, to be attended by Keith Fletcher and Ray Illingworth (assuming that the team manager and chairman of selectors are still in a job). "We are going to scour England for a young Shane Warne," John Morgan, of Lombards, announced. The ploy should meet Atherton's exacting demands for youth: the idea of confronting West Indies with a 13-year-old leg spinner could hardly be bettered.

Capper and Bell pose threat to Firebrands

FOUR non-league clubs — Formby, Warwick, Hampstead and Westminster and Spencer — feature in the five Hockey Association Cup fifth-round matches to be played tomorrow (Sydney Friskin writes).

Formby, third in the north league, follow up their 3-2 victory over Slough in the fourth round with a home match against Firebrands. Andy Forshaw, the Formby goalkeeper and captain, believes that his side has a good chance. "If they score early, we could be in trouble but the longer we hold them off the better for us," he said. He regards his two resourceful forwards, Capper and Bell, as potential match-winners.

Warwick, who eliminated Trojans in the previous round, could be in trouble against the high-scoring Guildford, for whom Jennings scored five goals in the 9-3 league win against Slough last week. Isca, with Robert and Graham Skinner to guide their fortunes, should get past Spencer, but Hampstead and Westminster could severely test Richmond. In the remaining match tomorrow, Barford Tigers are expected to overcome Neston.

☐ Richard Dodds, captain of the 1988 Olympic gold medal-winning team, has been appointed chairman of the Great Britain men's Olympic Hockey Committee in place of Phil Appleyard, who is standing down after 4½ years.

☐ Slough return to action in the women's national hockey league after a nine-week winter break undaunted by the prospect of two tough contests in the premier division and AEWHA Cup this weekend. The leaders meet third-placed Hightown in the league today and Sutton Coldfield in an all-premiership clash in the fourth round of the AEWHA Cup tomorrow.

England profit from spoils of Waugh

ENGLAND recovered from an early setback to defeat Poland 4-1 in a classification match at the Indira Gandhi hockey tournament in Delhi yesterday, and will now play Malaysia for fifth place (Sydney Friskin writes).

England owed much of their success to the performance of Waugh, who stamped his authority on the game and scored two brilliant goals. Hazlitt, in deep defence, and Conway, in attack, were also impressive.

After 15 minutes, England fell behind when Poland converted a short corner. Luckes, who had replaced Mason in goal, blocked the first shot from Slowomir, but was well beaten on the follow-up by Kubisiak. Three minutes later, Crutchley levelled the score with a hard, well-placed shot.

Crutchley and Conway then combined well to put Poland under pressure and Waugh, diving forward to meet a centre from the right, put England ahead in the twentieth minute.

Conway increased the lead from a short corner in the 42nd minute, and ten minutes later Hazlitt set up a chance for Waugh to score his second goal and England's fourth.

With time almost up, England were awarded a penalty stroke for a dangerous charge by Markiewicz on Conway, but Crutchley shot straight at Pobuza, the Poland goalkeeper, who made a comfortable save to deny England a fifth goal. Malaysia beat South Africa 4-3 to set up their meeting with England.

ENGLAND: D Luckes (East Grinstead); J Wyatt (Reading), I Morrison (Old Loughtonians), S Hazlitt (Hounslow, capt), J Waugh (Southgate), M Sutton (Bournville), R Crutchley (Hounslow), G Fordham (Hounslow), D Woods (Southgate), J Lee (East Grinstead), N Conway (Old Loughtonians). Substitutes used: C Giles (Havant), B Sharpe (Cannock), J Wallis (Teddington)

PLAY-OFFS: Fifth to eighth places: England 4 Poland 1; Malaysia 4 South Africa 3

SEMI-FINALS: Today: India v Australia; South Korea v Kazakhstan

Coca-Cola Cup semi-final puts first division's contrasting likely lads under the spotlight

Opposites attracted by lure of Wembley glory

Russell Kempson on Joey Beauchamp, the Swindon Town winger who flew the nest

MARC ASPLAND



Beauchamp got caught up in big-city aggravation when he joined West Ham

It was the most public of humiliations. Oxford United midfield starlet *joins West Ham United for £1* million and, only days later, realises the full implications. Too late. Quiet country boy endures big-city blues and national ridicule.

For Joey Beauchamp, the two-month episode has left its scars. It haunts him still, six months on, even though he is safely back in the family embrace in Oxford, where he was born, bred and would happily spend the rest of his life were it not for the footballing skills that have drawn suitors from afar.

At least playing for Swindon Town, who take on Bolton Wanderers in the first leg of their Coca-Cola Cup semi-final at the County Ground tomorrow, is closer to home, far from the maddening crowd of Upton Park that took him to the brink of despair. A 40-minute drive into leafy Wiltshire instead of two hours of stop-start angst around the M25 and into London E13, eventually.

Beauchamp, 23, had led a sheltered yet progressive existence at Oxford United, graduating from the club's Centre of Excellence into the first team, and still lived with his parents, Joe and Doreen, in the north of the city. He saw no reason for change.

But for West Ham's persistence, in June, after an initial rebuff the previous season, *and the mighty lure of the FA* Carling Premiership pound, he would have stayed put. Period. "Even though Oxford were relegated, I enjoyed it with them. Always had done," he said. "Swindon were interested but West Ham were desperate to get me.

"When I went up to see them, they asked me to sign there and then. I had to make a snap decision and was pressured into signing. They should have made sure I wanted to sign. They were the ones paying £1 million. I'm not the best at decision-making. When I'm under pressure, *I just do things.*"

Beauchamp is instantly affable, albeit within a strange, distant haze, and talks in short, staccato bursts, the sentences trailing off as other images enter his mind. He chews his nails constantly, avoids eye contact and often appears like a little boy lost. Easy to persuade, difficult to penetrate. "Maybe I'm a bit *gullible, a bit naïve some*times," he said. "I knew almost as soon as I got home that I'd made the wrong choice. It was the wrong move at the wrong time. I couldn't sleep and thought I'd ruined my career, my life."

A single, traffic-choked journey through the usual M25 mayhem — "I'm not the greatest of travellers" — convinced him of his error. West Ham demanded he should move nearer the ground, a request he declined, and Swindon reaffirmed their earlier interest to end his stay after only a handful of pre-season matches.

His talent, though, has never been in doubt — predominantly left-footed, good balance, bewitching swerve. Maurice Evans, the former Oxford manager and now general manager, recalled how he signed Beauchamp, a 14-year-old schoolboy, in the face of unanimous opposition from his contemporaries. "They all reckoned he was too quiet, a loser." Evans said. "Very quiet, yes; he's an introvert, never says a word. I don't expect his mum knows him, but he's got great ability. West Ham probably frightened him, with all those big-city boys taking the mickey."

Though back home, the mickey is still taken, and more. His father once received a death threat to pass on — Oxford followers are not keen on those who defect to Swindon. Yet behind a troubled facade lurks an agile mind, constantly calculating *the odds.*

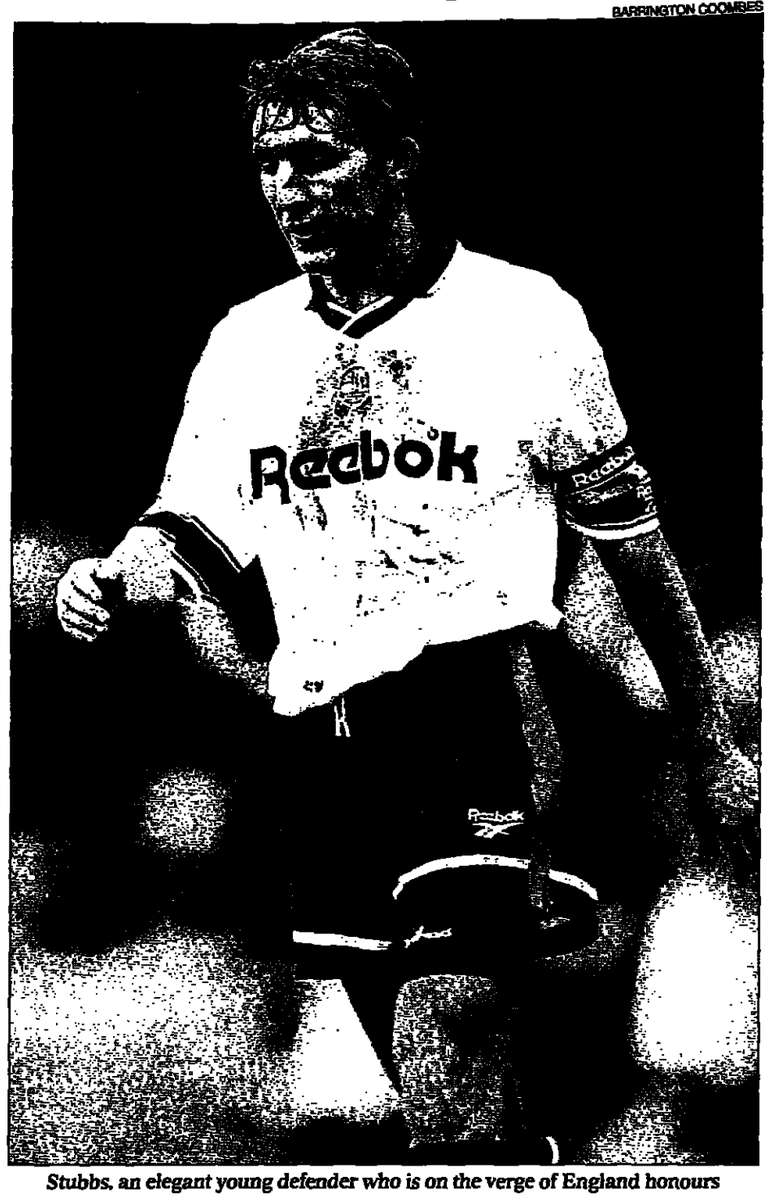
He passed his maths O level a year early, with grade A. He also writes computer games, and dared to insist on his £30,000 signing-on fee at West Ham, which was never paid. He likes a bet, too, though not to excess, and owns a greyhound, Ruby Fire. "I like to get away from football when I'm not training or playing," he said.

Swindon's progress to the *Coca-Cola semi-finals has* materialised without a meeting with his former, brief employers. "Every cup draw, I thought: 'Oh God, please don't be West Ham'," he said. Yet a possible return to Wembley, where he was a ball boy when Oxford won the Milk Cup final in 1986, provokes a rare outbreak of optimism.

"It was an unbelievable *experience," he said. "The* noise just hit you. We were watching the presentation of medals at the end, and I was thinking 'I'll be up there one day', when I turned around and saw the other lads had gone. I was standing all on my own." Typical Beauchamp, locked in another world. Past and present.

Michael Henderson says the rare talent of Alan Stubbs is typical of Bolton Wanderers

BARRINGTON COOMBES



Stubbs, an elegant young defender who is on the verge of England honours

Last year, ripples; this year, waves. Bolton Wanderers were everyone's darlings in 1994 when they turfed Everton, Arsenal *and Aston Villa out of the FA* Cup. Everyone admired their plumage. Alas, they lost their feathers and, too young a team for the long slog, they *missed out on promotion to* the FA Carling Premiership.

A season older, and wiser, they are two games from Wembley in the "other" cup, sponsored by Coca-Cola, and play the first leg of the semi-final at Swindon tomorrow. To prevent Bolton travelling to Wiltshire as leaders of the Endsleigh Insurance League first division, Tranmere *Rovers and Middlesbrough* must win today.

Bolton reached the summit by walloping Wolverhampton Wanderers 5-1 at *Burnden Park last Saturday.* The scoreline may have been unrepresentative of a match that was more even but it was an outstanding performance, all the same. If it is true that "they play like this all the time", as Michael Watkinson, the Lancashire cricket captain, said, his tongue only partly in his cheek, then they would be promoted immed*iately on a show of hands.*

Promotion is essential. Failure to go up would leave Bruce Rioch, the manager, vulnerable to the poachers who are known to lie in wait. There are also players such as *Jason McAteer, the Anglo*-Irish midfielder, and John McGinlay, who has supplied 15 goals this season. Alan Thompson, the skilful left-sided attacker, has turned heads. And there is Alan Stubbs, the elegant defender who is on the cusp of England recognition.

Stubbs, like McAteer, is from Merseyside, where *Liverpool and Everton are* measuring the progress of both players. Blackburn Rovers and Manchester United, the two leading sides in the Premiership, are also taking notes. One is desperate for a centre back of quality; the other is trying to replace Steve Bruce. Stubbs, just 23, appears to have the world at his feet.

Like his team-mates, he is enjoying his football too much to be sidetracked by speculation. "I get the impression that people like coming to watch us. *Last year we got* a bit carried away but this season there is more experience."

Rioch, who built a good footballing team at Middlesbrough out of the ruins of the receiver, is building another at Bolton. "We have a group of players who are comfortable on the ball. There are *players who can run with it.* can shoot, dribble and play to feet." Which adds up to a team of formidable talents.

If Stubbs stands out, it is *partly because we are not* used, in this country, to watching defenders who are, as Arrigo Sacchi observed of Franco Baresi, "on first-name terms with the ball". No wonder people have sought *comparisons with* Alan Hansen, the former Liverpool captain. Stubbs is that rarity, the footballing centre half.

Hansen almost joined Bolton *in 1977. It is strange to* think that Bolton's budget would not stretch to the £110,000 that took him to Anfield, where he established a reputation as the most handsome defender — and arguably the best player, give or take Kenny Dalglish — in the land.

Some suspected Hansen, *as they suspect Stubbs now,* precisely because he was so good on the ball. The British prefer defenders to be hewers of wood rather than engravers. *It should not be forgotten* that Hansen played only 26 times for Scotland, and was left out of the 1986 World Cup squad by Alex Ferguson, who was happier with his Aberdeen partnership of Miller and McLeish.

Stubbs shows no signs of changing his game. At Bolton he is coached by *Colin Todd, another brilliant* and underused international. Todd won two championships with Derby County in 1972 and 1975 when he was the finest half back in England, and his working relationship with Rioch, a Derby team-mate, has enabled Bolton's young players to blossom.

*Todd's brilliance as a play*er in his own position is not lost on Stubbs. "He's been wonderful with me", the younger man said. "The best *advice he has given is 'don't* ever be afraid to play'." And he can certainly play. Few have such confidence.

Swindon are a good footballing team, too, and Steve McMahon has rattled their cosy rural cage a bit since taking over, so there is a fine game in prospect. But even if Bolton reach Wembley, Rioch and his players *cannot afford to take their eye* off the ball in the league. However unromantic it sounds, promotion really is more important than cup glory.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

MADRID: International indoor meeting: (Sp unless stated) Men: 60m: 1, B Sunn (Can) 6.56sec; 2, R Steward (Jam) 6.60; 3, V Savin (Kaz) 6.62. 60m hurdles: 1, A Johnson (US) 7.42sec, 2, C Jackson (GB) 7.42; 3, T Dees (US) 7.55. 400m: 1, A Sánchez 48.60sec, 2, G Attsen 49.84; 3, I Ayuso 50.72. 3,000m: 1, A Jimenez 8min 06.47sec; 2, I Viciosa 8:07 05, 3, M Boutaib (Mor) 8:07.91. *Long jump:* 1, I Pedroso (Cuba) 8.14m; 2, A Hernandez 8.13; 3, I Mladenov (Bul) 8.09. Pole vault: 1, M Tarasov (Russ) 5.60m; 2, R Gataullin (Russ) 5.60, equal 3, J García Chico and P Bochkaryov (Russ) 5.40. Women: 60m: 1, I Privalova (Russ), 6.92sec; 2, Z Tamopolskaya (Ukr) 7.12; 3, J Cuthbert (Jam) 7.12. 60m hurdles: 1, B Bukovec (Slovenia) 7.90sec, 2, A Lopez (Cuba) 7.97; 3, T Reshetnikova (Russ) 7.98. 400m: 1, C Perez Diaz 56.23sec; 2, S Aden, 1:01.44; 3, L Domanguez 1:01 89. 1,000m: 1, M Zuniga 2min 44.81sec; 2, M Eworiot 2:44.78, 3, A Berakoepea 2:44.82. High jump: 1, G Astafei (Rom) 2.01m; 2, B Bilac (Slovenia) 1.98; 3, Y Gulyayeva (Russ) 1.95. Triple jump: 1, A Biryukova (Russ) 14.69m; 2, Y Chen (Russ) 14.67; 3, I Kravets (Ukr) 13.92.

BADMINTON

NORWICH: Bell Cablemedia English championships: Men's singles: First round: P Knowles (Kent) bt N Panesar (Yorks) 15-8, 15-2; A Bush (Wilts) bt M Andrew (Cheshire) 15-8, 15-4; R Nock (Gloucs) bt K Jones (Wilts) 15-10, 15-5; B Williams (Avon) bt S Wardell (Surrey) 2-15, 15-6, 15-10; C Palmer (Essex) bt E Plane (Norfolk) 15-10, 8-15, 15-11; M Edge (Lancs) bt R Pilinger (Middx) 15-4, 15-3; D Hall (Essex) bt S Isaac (Sussex) 18-13, 15-4; G Hurrell (Dorset) bt I Sullivan (Glos) 15-10, 15-2; M Constable (Warks) bt L Clapham (Lincs) 15-10, 15-6; P Hinder (Wilts) bt P Jeffrey (Essex) 15-0, 15-9; S Pandya (Staffs) bt M Tripp (Sussex) 18-13, 15-3; R Doling (Kent) bt M Hall (Norfolk) 15-8, 15-5; A Nielsen (Surrey) bt C Fenton (Yorks) 15-2, 15-2; A Cotlell (Gloucs) bt N Blow (Northants) 15-4, 15-6; N Waterman (Kent) bt J Austin (Middx) 9-15, 15-9, 15-8, P Bush (Wilts) bt A Clark (Notts) 15-5, 15-2. Second round: Knowles bt Williams 15-5 15-6

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Golden State 109 Denver 101; Seattle 126 Chicago 118 (OT), LA Clippers 122 Houston 107.

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Leopards 113 (Deveaux 28, Brown 24, Youngblood 19) Derby Bucks 92 (Slemon 24, Gonda 21, Balka 19)

EUROPEAN CHAMPION CLUBS' CUP: Group A: Benfica 62 Real Madrid 66, Group B: Olympiakos 73 Limoges 76, Cibona Zagreb 97 Barcelona 84; Bologna 66 Istanbul 54

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD (third day of four): Queensland 400-8 dec (M Love 96, A Border 94) and 34-0, *New South Wales* 196 and 237. Queensland won by ten wickets

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Queensland	7	4	1	2	26
*Victoria	7	4	1	2	25.1
*Western Australia	7	3	1	3	21.7
South Australia	7	3	3	1	20
New South Wales	8	2	0	6	14
Tasmania	8	1	4	3	10

*Victoria and Western Australia were both fined fractions of points for slow over-rates.

NELSON: Women's International (third day of four): India 310 (C Aheer 75, S Debir 52, K Withers 3-84); *New Zealand 350 (D* Hockey 107, K Flavell 94, T Anderson 63, David 2-34)

CYCLING

ETANG DE BERRE, France: Tour Mediterranean: Leading positions after third stage (Italy unless stated). 1, M Cipollini, 2hr 59min 37sec; 2, G Colleno 3, J Planckaert (Bel); 4, D Konichev (Russ); 5, D Abdoujaparov (Uzbek), 6, F Baldato 7, J-P Heynderickx (Bel), 8, M Michaelsen (Den) all same time. Leading overall standings: 1, Baldato, 4hr 56min 53sec; 2, L Scinto, 14 secs behind; 3, R Pelito, same time, 4, M Scandri, 15; 5, G Bugno, 6, D Rebellin, 7, D Cassano, all same time.

FOOTBALL

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Stoke 3 Liverpool 1. Second division: Shefi Wed 3 Newcastle 1

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Oxford Utd 2 Brighton 2

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Waltham Abbey 2 Hamingey 0

LIVERPOOL SENIOR CUP: Final: St Helens 1 Tranmere Rovers 3.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League Trophy: Under-18: Hampshire 3 Devon 4 *FA Shlokens Trophy:* Under-19: Winstanley Coll 3 All Saints 2. Under-16: Copleston HS 1 Mayfield Wer HS 0

LIBERTADORES CUP: Group five: Bolivar 2 Wilstermann 0; Sporting Cristal 3 Alianza 0.

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: Palmeiras 5 Guarani 0; Ponte Preta 0 Piracacaba 6, Santos 3 America 0; Rio Branco 2 Bragantino 0; Aracatuba 1 Novohorizontino 0; Ferroviana 1 Corinthians 1

SPANISH CUP: Third round, first leg: Real Madrid 1 FC Valencia 2.

FREESTYLE SKIING

ALTENMARKT, Austria: World Cup: Ballet: Men: 1, R Knzuersen (Nor) 24 50, 2, H Baumgartner (Switz) 24 45, 3, D Downs (US) 21.60 Women: 1, E Breen (US) 27.35pts, 2, M Guarnen (US) 21.50; 3, J Witte (Holl) 21.15

GOLF

JOHANNESBURG: Men's tournament: Second-round scores (SA unless stated): 135: R Goosen 70, 65; 137: E Els 72, 65 138: M Gortana (It) 71, 67 140: I Leggatt (Can) 71, 69; M McNulty (Zim) 68, 72, T Johnstone (Zim) 66, 74. 141: J Bland 71, 70. *A McLardy 68, 73

* denotes amateur

SAN DIEGO: Men's tournament: First-round scores (US unless stated) 65: D Pohl, J Edwards, J Haas, P Mickelson, C DiMarco, 66: B Burns, D Ogrm, P Stewart, B Faxon, B Chamblee. 67: M Brokey, K Gibson, J P Hayes, C Stadler, H Sutton, L Rinker, L Nelson, S Sincker, D Paulson, S Verplank. Other scores: 68: Y Mizumaki (Japan) 69: D Feherty (GB), 70: J Ozaki (Japan), 71: N Faldo (GB), 72: J Parnevik (Swe), S Elkington (Aus)

ADELAIDE: Men's tournament: Leading second-round scores (Australia unless stated): 138: D Diaz 67, 71, A Pantier 70 68 139: T Elkon 68, 71, J O'Keefe (US) 68, 71 140: C Gray 68, 72 141: M Wer (Can) 75, 66, 142, A Stolz 73, 69; R Green 73, 69, S Laycock 73, 69; D Ecob 72, 69, 143: P O'Malley 73, 70; G Joyner 72, 71, S Strahll (NZ) 73, 70, D Iwasaki-Smith 71, 72; O Moore 71, 72; T Price 71, 72, M Long (NZ) 67, 76, M Cain 72, 71.

PHOENIX: Ping World Pro-Am: Leading third-round scores (GB unless stated) 211: C Gibson (US) 69, 71, 71, 217: H Gardner (US) 73, 72, 72, 220: R Weir 73, 79, 68, 221: S Deloy 79, 68, 74; M Slater 75, 75, 71; R Brown 70, 73, 78, 223: T Spence 77, 73, 73; B Wates 83, 73, 67.

HOCKEY

DELHI: Indira Gandhi Gold Cup: Play-offs (fifth to eighth positions): England 4 Poland 1; *Malaysia 4 South Africa 3.*

MOTOR RALLYING

KARLSTAD: Swedish Rally (after third special stage): 1, K Eriksson (Mitsubishi, Swe) 30min 53sec; 2, T Makinen (Mitsubishi, Fin) at 2sec; 3, T Radstrom (Toyota, Swe) 4, 4, C Sainz (Subaru, Sp) 12; 5, S Blomqvist (Ford, Swe) 18

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Lacoste British Open Championship: Third round: J Prenn bt T Sawrey-Cookson 17-14, 15-10, 15-18, 17-14 Quarter-finals: W Boone bt R Wakely 15-9, 15-4, 15-5; P Brake bt M Hue Williams 12-15, 17-14, 11-15, 15-7, 17-16.

TENNIS

SAN JOSE: Men's tournament: (US unless stated) Second round: B MacPhie bt Kenny Thorne 6-4, 6-3; B Shelton bt D Nargiso (it) 7-6, 7-6; G Rusedski (Can) bt A Jarryd (Swe) 6-7, 6-0, 6-4, A Agassi bt M Goellner (Ger) 7-6, 6-2, B MacPhie bt K Thorne 6-4, 6-3, J Courier bt N Pereira (Ven) 6-4, 6-1; J Grabb bt P McEnroe 7-5, 6-7, 6-3.

CHICAGO: Women's tournament (US unless stated) Second round: B Schultz (Holl) bt D Graham 6-4, 7-6; M Maleeva (Bul) w/o E Likhovtseva (Kaz) sor; C Rubin bt P Shriver 6-4, 6-1; L Raymond bt N Zvereva (Belo) 7-6, 7-6.

MARSEILLES: Men's tournament: Second round: J Renzenbrink (Ger) bt C U Steeb (Ger) 5-7, 7-6, 6-4; *D Rikl (Cz) bt M* Stadling (Swe) 6-4, 6-2; Vacek bt P Wekesa (Ken) 6-4, 6-4 L Roux (Fr) bt Dosedel 7-5, 6-3; K Nucera (Slov) bt G Pozzi (It) 6-3, 6-4, Y Kalelnikov (Russ) bt Hlasek (Swi) 6-4, 6-4; B Becker (Ger) bt H Leconte (Fr) 6-0, 6-4; O Delaitre (Fr) bt A Mronz (Ger) 3-6, 6-3, 7-6.

BRAMHALL: LTA men's indoor satellite tournament (GB unless stated): Second round: D Van Scheppingen (Holl) bt B Cowan 6-3, 6-4; A Richardson bt N Bruno (It) 7-6, 6-4, T Kempers (Holl) bt S Manai (Swe) 6-1, 6-3, T Johansson (Swe) bt S Matheu (Fr) 6-1, 6-3; J Pelikan (Cz) bt T Kalola (Fin) 0-6, 6-4, 6-2; P Fredriksson (Swe) bt C Bennett 6-2, 6-1; D Van Uffelen (Bel) bt C Beecher 7-5, 7-6; T Kempers (Holl) bt S Manai (Swe) 6-1, 6-3; R Wassen (Holl) bt P Pala (Cz) 6-3, 6-4.

SHEFFIELD: LTA women's satellite tournament (GB unless stated): Quarter-finals: K Hand bt L Giroud (Fr) 6-3, 3-6, 7-6; O Ivanova (Russ) bt O Barabanschikova (Belo) 6-4, 6-2, B Schwartz (Austria) bt N Dechy (Fr) 7-6, 6-3; L Ahl bt M Mair 7-5, 6-3 Semi-finals: Ivanova bt Hand 6-3, 6-1.

DUBAI: Men's tournament: (Sp unless stated) First round: A Berasategui bt D Sapsford (GB) 6-1, 6-2, P Cash (Aus) bt T Muster (Austria) 2-8, 6-4, 6-4. Second round: Cash bt A Costa 6-3, 4-6, 6-3; W Ferreira (SA) bt K Kinnear (US) 6-1, 7-6; H Holm (Swe) bt H Arazi (Mor) 6-3, 6-2; A Gaudenzi (It) bt F Clavet 7-6, 6-1, 6-2; T Woodbridge (Aus) bt J Stoltenberg (Aus) 6-3, 2-1 (ret); P Korda (Cz) bt C Costa 6-4, 6-7, 6-1; C Amans (Ger) bt A Berasategui 6-4, 6-4, J Sánchez bt S Bruguera w/o. Quarter-final: Gaudenzi bt Holm 6-4, 6-2, Ferreira bt P Cash 6-1, 6-2

Cash glad of small change

FROM ALIX RAMSAY IN DUBAI

PAT CASH'S road back to the summit of tennis proved to be a dead end yesterday when he was brought to an abrupt halt by Wayne Ferreira in the quarter-finals of the Dubai Open. The latest stage of his battle to rediscover his best form ended in a 6-1, 6-2 defeat.

Cash, a former Wimbledon champion, was once ranked No 4 in the world, but that was a long time ago. These days, surviving a few rounds *without injury is an achieve*ment, and it was asking a little too much yesterday to expect Cash to overcome the rankings again, especially against the likes of Ferreira.

Last year, the South African won *five titles and more than* $1 million (about £645,000), which will go some way to pay for his apartment in Montmartre, in which Renoir is said to have worked. Not that there is much artistry in Ferreira's play, *but there is* little to fault either.

Ominously for the rest of the field, Ferreira feels he is playing better and better as the week goes on, and in a tournament lacking leading seeds after the early departures of Ivanisevic, Bruguera and Berasategui, *he is now* favourite for the title and the $142,000 *winner's cheque.*

However, the week has been fruitful for Cash, too. He has pushed himself up the rankings by about 100 places and has proved to himself that his battered body can come through a handful of matches more or less unscathed. With *his history of bad luck, that is* worth more than the $15,860 he has earned in singles.

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SPORT

ATHLETICS 37
REGIS BANKING ON DRAW TO BECOME KING OF THE TRACK

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11 1995

No time for return to dark days of fences



Rob Hughes, football correspondent, says the recent resurgence of violence in the game should not lead to panic measures

Never again, British football promised itself, would it tolerate steel cages at its grounds. The fences of death have been down since Hillsborough, six years ago, and must stay down despite knee-jerk responses to the madness of Eric Cantona, to the attempted assault of a referee at Ewood Park, and to the pitch invasion after the FA Cup tie at Stamford Bridge last Wednesday.

Those who were at Hillsborough, who had to watch as 96 people were crushed, would rather surrender to the closure of stadiums, or to the ban from Europe that once again was mooted by Uefa, the game's European governing body, yesterday.

"Steel fences are not an option," Graham Kelly, the chief executive of the Football Association, said this week. Good for him. Let us hope that he and his councillors really mean it. For some of us who travel the Continent, who have seen those horrifying containing fences in Spain, Italy, Holland and France, are fearful of them being resurrected here again. Alternatives are already in place.

By all accounts, policing at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday was brilliant. The police anticipated trouble, which was why 30 horses were in readiness for the pitch invasion. Though one police woman needed stitches in a head wound and another officer was concussed, the chain of police command held firm.

Furthermore, Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, insists every bit of mayhem is on film, captured by 12 closed-circuit video cameras. In that case, the film must be used. Track the thugs down. Penalise them ruthlessly, keep them away from football for as long as it takes to purge the criminality from their often drunken minds. Speaking of drink — three of the arrests were listed by the police as drink-related — remember that the FA runs a premier division that carries the label of a brewery.

In dealing with the Chelsea affair, there are those who expect another hefty fine. Why? The police chiefs on the night have exonerated Chelsea of any semblance of blame and have said that the club and the police did everything possible to anticipate and deal with the violence.

Having acknowledged that Kelly responded properly to the call for a reversion to fences, one laments his added comment that "football has suffered an unfortunate accumulation of unrelated incidents".

Unrelated? How does the chief executive know that the lawlessness of players and managers, the constant haranguing of the referee, does not incite violent behaviour in the stands? Who can say that the karate kick of Cantona, and the alleged misbehaviour of Ince, were not catalysts? Who can say that the lawlessness for which Dennis Wise, the Chelsea cpatain, has been convicted, does not excite and attract the wrong elements to the stadium where he performs the duties of captain?

These are not new questions. In a speech in Brussels in 1977, the then Labour minister for sport, Denis Howell, told his audience: "Sport is part of society and cannot be divorced from it. If there is disenchantment, disturbance or violence in society, it is bound to affect sport ... and there is a growing tendency to violence and emotionalism, both on and off the field, that spills into brutality and hooliganism."

Some 17 years later there are still those who condone the misbehaviour on the field as though it has no effect, either on the impressionable minds of the young or on the near psychotic behaviour of those who are older and should know better.

A South Yorkshire police officer who asked George Graham, the Arsenal manager, last weekend to tone down his "ranting" on the touchline obviously felt that there is a potential for mimicry between what happens on the field and off it. It is wider than that. As Howell said, sport and society are indivisible. This, of course, is not exclusive to Britain.

In the past fortnight there have been deaths at football venues in Indonesia, Italy and France. An Indonesian was killed by missiles thrown between rival supporters, the Italian was stabbed in the street and the Frenchman was shot outside the stadium of a Parisian suburban amateur club.

France's minister for youth and sports, Michèle Alliot-Marie, has followed the Italian lead and declared that 6,800 matches involving amateur teams in and around Paris scheduled for tomorrow are cancelled.

The French, the Italians and so many others in Europe do not have the advanced policing, the surveillance or, indeed, the modernised stadiums, that Britain has. The cost of these, both in finance and in public freedom of movement, is well worth it in terms of the safety they bring. In moments of despair there is a tendency to think even our all-seater stadiums have a design fault: they still house people.

But on Wednesday night, while the police were dealing swiftly with a blast from our past in London, I saw in Southampton a cameo that makes the game worthwhile. A boy, maybe eight or nine, scarcely sat on the seat for which his father had paid £13. He could not contain his enthusiasm, his joy, whenever Matthew Le Tissier did something special; and that, thankfully, was much of the time.

Wimbledon offer way back for Shilton

By Russell Kempson

PETER SHILTON, 45, the former England goalkeeper, has resurrected his football career with Wimbledon. The former Plymouth Argyle player-manager, who left the Devon club last month after a series of financial disputes, has joined the FA Carling Premiership club on a weekly contract as temporary cover for Hans Segers.

Shilton, who was a non-contract player with Plymouth, will be Wimbledon's reserve goalkeeper for their FA Cup fifth-round tie against Liverpool at Anfield next Saturday. Neil Sullivan, Segers's regular deputy, is serving a one-match suspension.

Dan McCauley, the Plymouth chairman, waived any right to a transfer fee for Shilton, despite the pair having endured the most fragile of relationships during Shilton's three-year stint at Home Park. McCauley said: "I had a call from Joe Kinnear [the Wimbledon manager] asking if he was available and we all agreed, my solicitor included, that it is in everyone's interests not to get in his way. If he's playing, that should help his finances. There's been enough animosity, good luck to him."

Shilton, who is five short of 1,000 league appearances, said: "I feel good. I am not looking beyond the Liverpool game but I would like to play on and I know I can do it in the Premiership." Asked if he was too old for a comeback, he said: "People may say that but look at George Foreman. He did it and he is a world champion now."

Stuart Pearce, the Nottingham Forest defender and former England captain, is considering an option to end his playing career in Japan. Quite what the Japanese will make of him, as he launches into one of his all-or-nothing tackles, could become a controversial subject when the countries meet in future trade discussions.

Pearce, 32, has been approached by the newly formed J-League club in Kobe, scene of the recent earthquake, and the move, which could come before the end of the season, is reported to be worth £1 million. He is negotiating with Frank Clark, the Forest manager, over the terms of an early release from his contract at the City Ground.

"There could be an opportunity for Stuart to earn himself an awful lot of money out there," Clark said, "but I'm still hoping to persuade him to stay."

Pearce, already catching on to the secretive ways of his possible new paymasters, declined to comment. However, he would be wise to make every effort to blend in with the Japanese lifestyle, as Gary Lineker, his former England team-mate, managed to do so successfully. Learning the language and customs, combined with his natural, friendly manner, elevated Lineker to almost hero status among officials and supporters, despite the fact that he made relatively few appearances because of a toe injury.

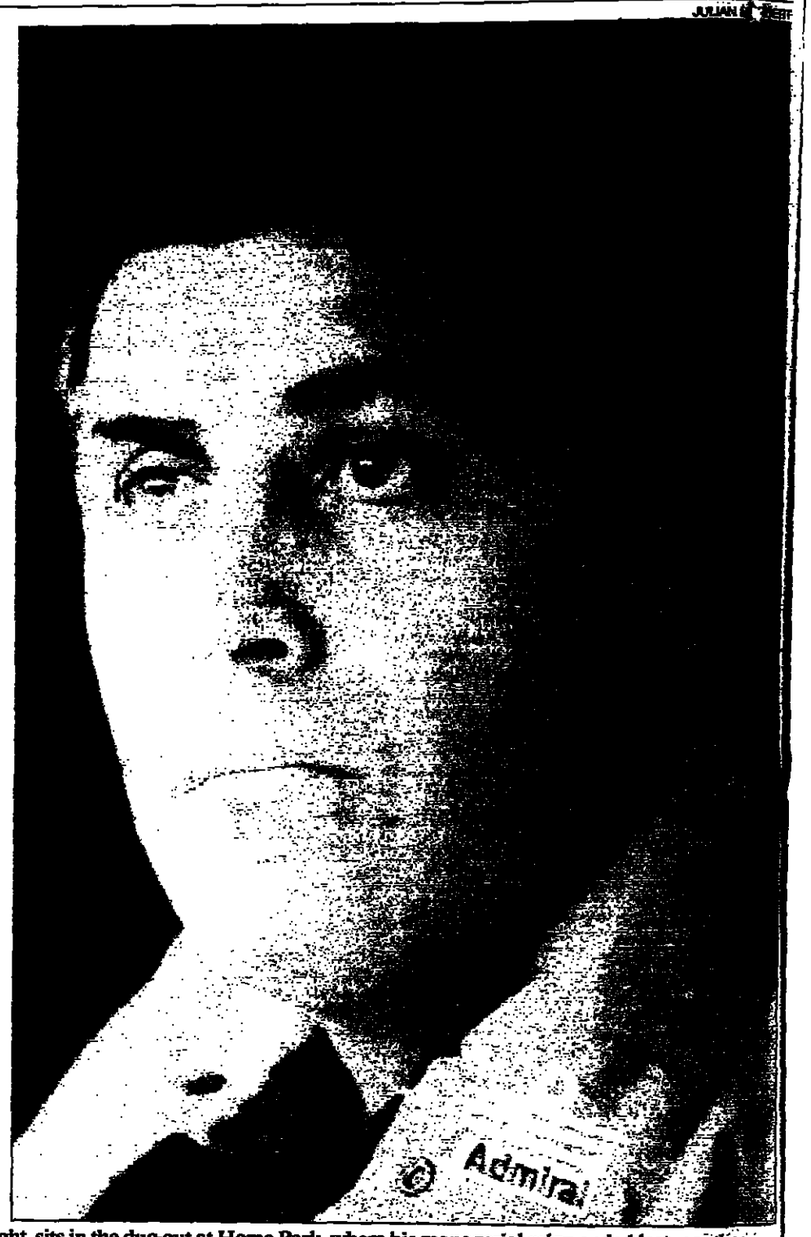
For Pearce, though, a normally reticent character, it may prove more difficult. Followers of the rapidly expanding sport in Japan may take to his trademark clenched-fist salute and fierce challenges, but they expect a bit more off-the-pitch communication from their idols, especially as many of the supporters are from the younger age-groups.

Aston Villa and Leicester City finally settled their differences yesterday over the transfer of Garry Parker, the Villa midfield player, to Filbert Street.

After protracted and heated negotiations between Brian Little, the Villa manager, and Mark McGhee, his counterpart, Parker switched to the East Midlands for £550,000, with Franz Carr, the Leicester winger, also swapping clubs as a £200,000 makeweight in the deal.

Opposites attracted, page 39





Shilton, left, bows out of international football at the 1990 World Cup in Italy and, right, sits in the dug-out at Home Park, where his managerial reign ended last month



Tyrrell's search for a winning formula

Hughes poised for derby comeback

By Peter Ball

A MONTH ago, the transfer of Andy Cole from Newcastle to Manchester United was expected to spell the end of Mark Hughes's career at Old Trafford. Today, at Maine Road, Hughes and Cole are likely to come together for the first time in a partnership to spearhead United's assault on the championship.

Four days after Cole's arrival, Hughes suffered a badly gashed knee at Newcastle, but he returned to training this week. With Giggs and Kanchelskis also available, Alex Ferguson, the United manager, is playing his cards close to his chest. "I will have to talk to Mark in the morning and decide then," he said yesterday. "He hasn't played for a month, but he has got the experience, he has got the strength, and he really enjoys playing in the big games. And it will be interesting to see how he plays with Andy Cole."

In the circumstances, Hughes's martial qualities are likely to be in demand this afternoon as City seek revenge for their 5-0 humiliation at Old Trafford in November. City against United is always the big game in Manchester. Today the Manchester derby is the most important game of the day in the Premiership.

Two weeks ago, United were looking at the possibility of falling eight points behind Blackburn Rovers, the leaders. Today they can go top, at least for 24 hours, if they beat City this afternoon. "We've eaten into their lead," Ferguson added. "You want to eat into a lead when there are 15 games to go and they've got time to think about it."

The pyschological warfare has boomed all week, with Paul Ince questioning Blackburn's ability to handle the pressure of leading the field. Kenny Dalglish, the Blackburn manager, himself no stranger to these little ploys, had a prompt answer.

"Is there any club who would rather be in their own position than in ours?" he asked. "It took United 27 years to handle it."

Blackburn, who will be without the suspended Le Saux and, almost certainly, Tim Flowers tomorrow, have won only one of their last five games, but they could hardly have better opposition than Sheffield Wednesday. Their unbeaten run of 11 games ended in a shattering defeat on penalties after a two-hour slog at Wolverhampton on Wednesday. After leading 3-0 in the shoot-out, their resilience, not their most obvious characteristic, will be fully tested at Ewood Park.

After their flu epidemic, Newcastle have everyone back bar the long-term absentees, Sellars and Albert, for the visit of Nottingham Forest. Forest are without Bohinen and Roy and will rely heavily on Stan Collymore. And returning to old haunts, Lee Chapman will lead Ipswich Town's attack as they visit Leeds United.

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Treated greens fail to give Ballesteros the blues



Ballesteros: inventive

From Mel Webb
in Las Palmas

THE Canary Islands Open is being run at Maspalomas this week by Amen Corner, a company belonging to Severiano Ballesteros. So, does Ballesteros, who has a handsome lead after two rounds, feel even the smallest tinge of embarrassment that he might win his own event? Emphatically, he does not.

"How would you feel about winning your own tournament?" Ballesteros was asked as he relaxed after a round that had put him three strokes in front of Paul Eales with Gary Emerson, Anders Forsbrand and Darren Clarke a further shot in arrears. "I would feel fine about it," he said. "No embarrassment?" persisted his questioner. "None at all," came the frank and rapid reply. What is the point, he seemed to suggest, in throwing a party for 143 of your chums if you cannot snaffle the best cake for yourself?

Ballesteros was the central character in the tournament before it even started, and the old ham was at it for the second day, his 69 giving him a total of 137, seven under par. He had played some marvellously intuitive golf in his opening 68 and, if anything, hit the ball even better yesterday.

He was unreservedly happy with his game, but was less enthusiastic about the greens at Maspalomas, which somebody had decided would look more photogenic if they were just a little greener. The remedy was a large vat of dye and a spray gun. Although the newly-verdant putting surfaces might have looked marginally better to the impersonal gaze of the television cameras, the move literally went against the grain for Ballesteros and his fellow players.

"You can't tell which way the grain is going," Ballesteros said after a round that had concluded slightly anti-climactically when he left his first putt on the 9th, his last, four feet short. "That was because I just could not tell which way the grain was going," he said. "If the grain is with you on these greens, they are medium-fast, and if it's against, they are very slow. It involves a lot of concentration and a little bit of guesswork. The greens might look nice for TV, but they're not so good for putting on."

That small caveat apart, Ballesteros was in prime form. "He only hit a couple of loose shots all day," Gordon Brand Jr, one of his playing partners, said. "He was wonderfully inventive out there once or twice, too."

Ballesteros had five birdies and two bogeys. His first dropped shot came at the 12th, his third, and the second at the 229-yard par-three 8th, where he missed the green and two-putted after his sand-wedge recovery shot unaccountably pulled up ten feet short. In normal circumstances, the great man would never underhit a wedge by that much from 20 yards.

He goes into the last two days in buoyant mood and, if he maintains his present form, it is difficult to see anybody catching him. "My ball-striking was good today, and I had a lot of birdie chances that did not drop on the back nine," he said. "It was only the problems on the greens that stopped me. I feel good about my game and am very confident about the weekend."

LEADING SECOND-ROUND SCORES (GB and Ire unless stated): 137: S Ballesteros (Sp) 68, 69. 140: P Eales 68, 72. 141: G Emerson 69, 72; D Clarke 72, 69; A Forsbrand (Swe) 72, 69. 142: P Price 73, 69; S Struver (Ger) 70, 72. 143: C O'Connor Jr 74, 69; G Brand Jr 71, 72; S Luna (Sp) 72, 71; G Orr 68, 75; D Cooper 74, 69; R Boxall 73, 70. 144: D Smyth 75, 69; P Linhart (Sp) 76, 68; °O Sanchez (Sp) 71, 73; J Arrus (Sp) 76, 68; J Robson 72, 72; B Marchbank 76, 68; A Sorensen (Den) 72, 72; S Tinning (Den) 72, 72; R Karlsson (Swe) 69, 75; J Spence 69, 75; P Walton 68, 76.
° amateur

RESULTS: Quarter-fi J Wattana (Tha) 5-3; F Griffiths (Wales) 5-2;



On the scent of modern perfume bottles

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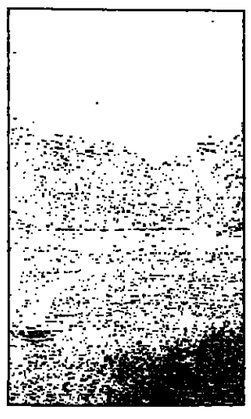
PLUS: Win Cacharel fragrances, page 10



Maryland, home to heavenly crab patties

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PLUS: Learning to snowboard, page 22



Take a cruise to Norway's majestic fjords

Page 3

PLUS: Attend a concert for 20p, page 7



Tainted film goddesses of the Third Reich

Page 15

PLUS: This week's bestseller lists, page 14

WEEKEND

ONE ADVERT AND A WEDDING



By Alice Thomson

Tall, attractive, 35-year-old lady needs tall, professional gentleman to show there is more to life than driving into London every day . . .

And so 37-year-old Stephen Clark arrived and, obligingly, proposed to Anne Cook in a traffic jam. Unequivocal proof that people who answer advertisements in lonely hearts columns are not all damaged and depressed divorcees, kinky kleptomaniacs or racist midget accountants. Even when they are commuters.

There are seven million adults in Britain who are neither married, in long-term relationships nor flat-sharing. Most of them are over 30 and have either worked so hard that they have been left as well-off wallflowers in society's mating dance, or have married but then divorced. They no longer want to go to a sweaty disco; their eyes have yet to meet, meltingly, over the meals-for-one counter at Sainsbury's; they do not want to risk their jobs by making a pass at someone from work; and they are never going to meet anyone at their married friends' dinner parties where all the discussion is about the merits of double duvets.

But they cannot face another Saturday night alone with *Sleepless in Seattle* on the video or another Sunday afternoon taking their parents' dog for a walk.

Anne, who put the above advertisement in the Rendezvous column of the Weekend section of *The Times*, split up from her husband three years ago. "I put everything into my work in London as PA to the managing director of BMW in Park Lane. I was up at 5am and I wouldn't get home to Bracknell until 9pm. I loved the job but it was exhausting and, although I had known my husband since I was 17, we eventually divorced," she says. "After that, I would come home, have a bowl of cereal and go to bed. On Saturdays, I would tidy the house, go shopping, maybe go to a film with some girlfriends or see my family. I had the money but no one to go on holiday with, and I had a house but it was depressing decorating it on my own."

But Anne didn't like night clubs, she was frightened of pubs and she wasn't going to accost someone in an art gallery. The only people she met in the gym were other single women. Friends would try to set her up with someone, but they always seemed to be proselytising policemen and, after one disastrous affair, she gave up.

On Saturday mornings, Anne would scan *The Times*'s Rendezvous column, pitying all the Desperates from Dorking and Millionaires from Milton Keynes with a Good Sense Of Humour (GSOH) who Would Like To Meet (WLTM) a slim English rose or a gorgeous-sized Goldie Hawn, photo essential, for True Love and Everlasting Happiness (TLEH). Then, last Easter, Anne's sister and her next door neighbour, Pam Sherlock, convinced her to put in an advertisement "just for a laugh".

The sack from the postman arrived two days later. "The first letter I picked out was from Stephen. It was almost too good to be true, apart from the photo, which was cut in half and made me suspicious that he was married," Anne says. She tried to ring but had lost her voice, so she wrote a letter back.

Stephen, who lived in Rochford, Essex, had never answered a lonely hearts advert before and couldn't believe it when he saw an orange envelope in the post the next day, replying to his first try. "It was like winning the National Lottery. I rang up Anne having no idea what I was letting myself in for. The

Continued on page 3, col 1

THE MALDIVES.
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OPERA

Rodney Milnes

KING PRIAM: The greatest effect on box office is probably that indefinable thing called "word of mouth", greater than any amount of hype, greater than critical raves. The English National Opera's staging of Tippett's opera opened on a Friday, and during the two days before any reviews appeared (and they were very good) London was abuzz with the news that this was something exceptional — a gripping account of Tippett's direct, unflinching treatment of Trojans and Greeks trapped in the spiralling horror of war. The evenly expert cast in Tom Cairns's production is headed by Andrew Shore, Jean Rigby and Thomas Randle; Paul Daniel conducts the first of these final two performances (ENO must be kicking themselves for not scheduling more) and Nicholas Kok the second.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (0171-836 3161), tonight, Fri 17, 7.30pm.

DER ROSENKAVALIER: The Royal Opera's latest revival of Strauss's bittersweet comedy of bad manners is strong where it matters — in the principals. Forget the Christmas cake designs and routine direction, revel instead in the depth of Felicity Lott's exquisitely sung portrayal of the Marschallin, in Barbara Bonney's sprightly Sophie and Aage Haugland's thoroughly amiable Ochs, and with luck — if she has got over her cold — in Anne Sofie von Otter's first London Octavian. Andrew Davis conducts a glowingly romantic account of the score.
Royal Opera House, Bow St, London WC2 (0171-304 4000), tonight, Wed 15, 6.30pm.

CLASSICAL

Richard Morrison

VISIONS OF PARADISE: The great Tippett festival continues at the Barbican. Tomorrow, the London Symphony Orchestra plays his luscious, Balinese-sounding Triple Concerto (with LSO string principals as soloists). This is put in fascinating conjunction with Elgar's First Symphony. On Wednesday the London Sinfonietta gives the world premiere of David Sawer's *The Greatest Happiness Principle*, sandwiched between two more Tippett works. The LSO is back on Thursday with Tippett's "Beethovenian" Third Symphony, fittingly coupled with Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto. Then on Friday the Grimethorpe Colliery Band teams up with the London Sinfonietta and Chorus for a tremendous mixed bag of contemporary brass and choral music.
Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (0171-638 8891), all 7.30pm.

CREATION AT COVENT GARDEN: John Eliot Gardiner is about to add Haydn's *The Creation* to his now extensive list of Deutsche Grammophon recordings, and this Royal Opera House performance is given by the forces — Monteverdi Choir, English Baroque Soloists, soloists led by Sylvia McNair — that will go into the studio next week. Expect stunning singing, immaculately well-prepared interpretations and intelligent insights. The question is really whether Gardiner can unbend sufficiently to project Haydn's wit and warmth.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (0171-304 4000), tomorrow, 7pm.

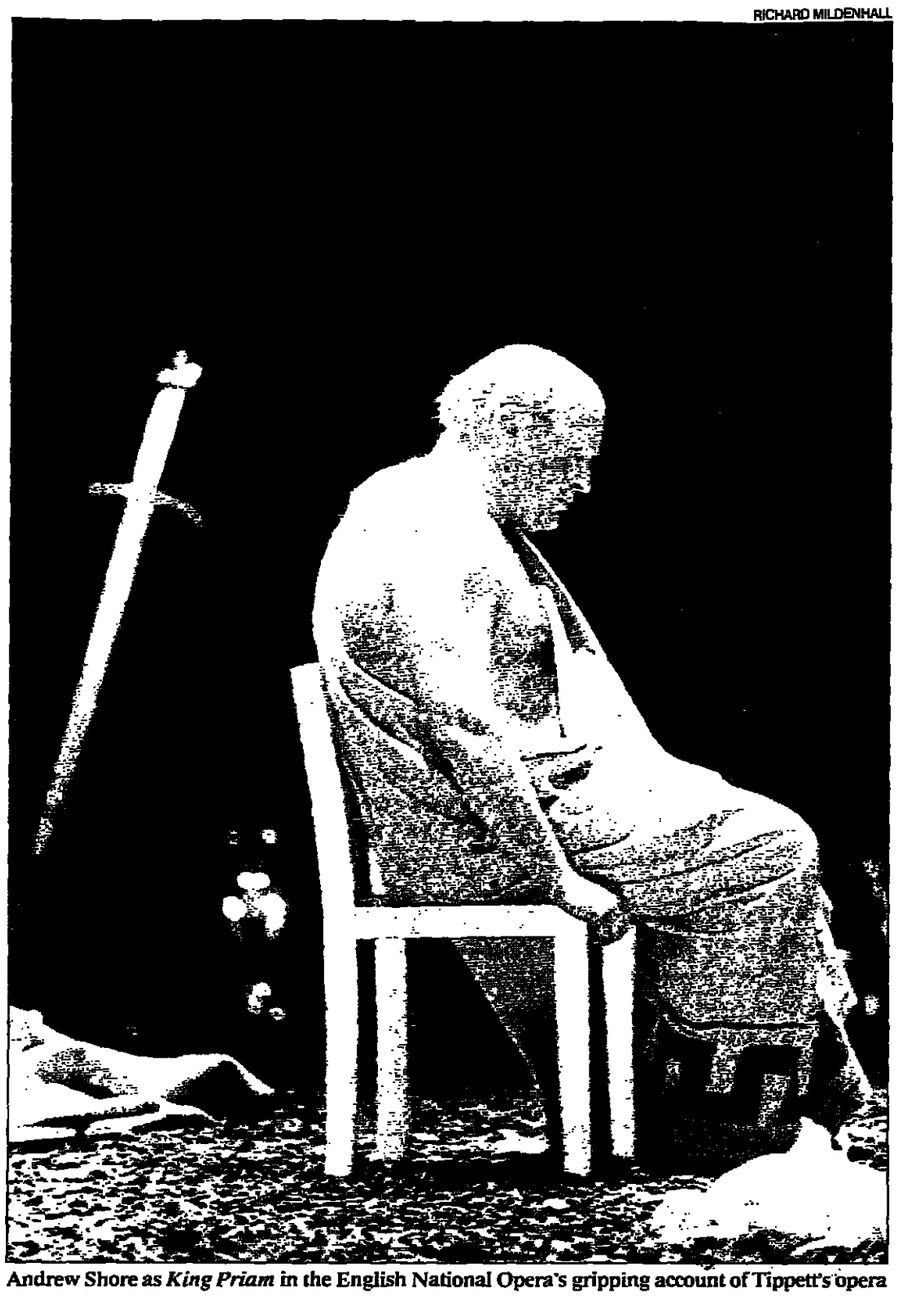
ROCK

David Sinclair

ERIC CLAPTON: Fifty next month, Eric Clapton is beginning to resemble the blues veterans that inspired him in the first place. He is, of course, white and immensely rich, whereas they were black and often destitute, but there is no denying the depth of feeling and technical finesse which informs his current album, *From The Cradle*.
SECC, Glasgow (0141-248 9999), Feb 15; **Sheffield Arena** (0114 2565656), Feb 16; **Albert Hall**, London SW7 (0171-589 8212), Feb 19-21, 23-25, 27, 28, March 1, 3-5; **National Indoor Arena**, Birmingham (021-200 2202), March 7.

SPIRITUALIZED ELECTRIC MAINLINE: *The New Musical Express*, having invited ambient-rockers Spiritualized Electric Mainline to perform at its Brat Awards celebration gig last month, described the trio's contribution as "aural mogadon for people too scared to buy Pink Floyd albums". With friends like that . . .
Manchester University (0161-832 1111), Feb 16; **Sheffield University** (0114 2768555), Feb 17; **Barrowlands**, Glasgow (0141-552 4601), Feb 18; **Mayfair**, Newcastle (0191-232 3109), Feb 19; **Metropolitan University**, Leeds (0113 2442999), Feb 21; **Wulfrun Hall**, Wolverhampton (01902 312030), Feb 22; **Shepherds Bush Empire**, London W12 (0181-740 7474), Feb 25; **Junction**, Cambridge (01223 412600), Feb 26; **Pyramid**, Portsmouth (01705 826666), Feb 27; **Leicester University** (0116 2556282), March 1; **Roadmender**, Northampton (01604 604222), March 2; **Bristol University** (0117 9299008), March 3.

RICHARD MILDENHALL



Andrew Shore as *King Priam* in the English National Opera's gripping account of Tippett's opera

JAZZ

Clive Davis

JIMMY WITHERSPOON/ MARTY GROSZ: Fifty years ago Jimmy Witherspoon was singing the Kansas City blues with the Jay McShann band. Now a senior citizen, he no longer packs quite as powerful a punch as he did in his younger days, but like that other veteran, Charles Brown, he still delivers the 12-bar blues with worldly sophistication. Marty Grosz, a wonderful raconteur and purveyor of witticisms, takes his inspiration from the hot jazz and pop tunes of the 1920s and 1930s. A genial live performer, his persona is summed up in the title of his album, *Songs I Learned At My Mother's Knee And Other Low Joints*.
***Witherspoon:* Jazz Café**, Parkway, London NW1 (0171-916 6000), Fri 17, Sat 18; ***Grosz:* Pizza Express**, Dean St, London W1, (0171-439 8722), Wed 15 to Sat 18.

EBERHARD WEBER: In the wrong hands, the solo jazz recital can turn into the most self-indulgent and long-winded of affairs. The German double bass player Eberhard Weber is one of the handful of musicians who can keep an audience enthralled without resorting to gimmickry. He has developed a wholly individual approach to the bass, expanding its range through the use of additional strings and extremely subtle use of electronics. Tonight's concert will be preceded by a set by Tommy Smith and Murray McLachlan. Tomorrow evening there will be an extra solo performance by the lyrical pianist David Newton.
Music Hall, Aberdeen (01224 641122), tonight, 8.30pm; **Queen Elizabeth Hall**, South Bank, London SE1 (0171-928 8800), tomorrow, 7.45pm; **Sallis Benney Theatre**, Brighton (01273 643010), Mon 13, 8pm; **Arnolfini**, Bristol (0117 9299191) Tues 14, 8pm.

MUSEUMS

John Russell Taylor

UNFOLDING BEAUTY: Described as a "secret collection", the artefacts belonging to the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers are virtually unknown even to members and have never been shown in public before. They illustrate the 286-year history of this small City Livery company with fans and related items. The star exhibits include a group of fans bequeathed to the company by Princess Alice, an enthusiastic commissioner and collector, among them one autographed by members of the Royal Family since Queen Victoria.
The Fan Museum, 12 Crooms Hill, Greenwich, London SE10 (0181-858 7879), Tuesday-Saturday, 11am-4.30pm; Sunday noon-4.30pm, until May 14. Admission £2.50.

ELISABETH FRINK: The death of Elisabeth Frink in 1993 is appropriately marked by a memorial exhibition drawn largely from the sculptor's own collection and organised by Yorkshire Sculpture Park. The work spans a period of more than 30 years, with her early rise to prominence (the Tate bought a sculpted *Bird* when she was still a student) to her latest monumental pieces such as the *Risen Christ* commissioned for Liverpool Anglican Cathedral. The animal pieces are particulary strong, and the visored *Goggle Heads* retain all their mysterious power. The exhibition also includes her expressive drawings and economically powerful prints.
Mead Gallery, Warwick Arts Centre, University of Warwick, Coventry (01203 524731) Monday-Friday, noon-8pm; Saturday 10am-8pm, until March 18.

GALLERIES

Richard Cork

TATE NEW DISPLAYS: The annual rehang has been unveiled at the Tate Gallery, and there are plenty of delights to discover. In the historic British collection, Zoffany's recently acquired *Colonel Mordaunt's Cock Match* stands out. Painted in India around 1784-6, its lively observation of a grand social gathering at the court of the Nawab Wazir teems with incident. In the modern collection, rooms devoted to individuals as diverse as Wyndham Lewis and John Latham are rewarding. So is Room 28, where Guston and Dubuffet confront each other with formidable energy, watched over by Baselitz's impressive wood carving of a grim, paint-smeared figure.
Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (0171-887 8000).

ZARINA BHIMJI: After a year as an Artist Fellow at Cambridge, Zarina Bhimji is showing a substantial exhibition of her recent work at Kettle's Yard. Using photograpy and ready-made objects, she explores issues of institutional control and the eugenics movement, which argued for racial improvement through selective breeding. Large, blurred portraits of mixed-race individuals look like condemned prisoners on metal shelves, and Bhimji's recent work in pathology museums yields disturbing images. But in the most powerful exhibit, called *I Will Always Be Here*, a cluster of burnt kurtas (shirts) hangs down mournfully from the ceiling of a high, narrow room. A haunting show by a young artist worth following as she moves between memory and fantasy, violence and unexpected sensuousness.
Kettle's Yard, Castle Street, Cambridge (01223 352124), until Feb 26.

DANCE

John Percival

ROYAL BALLET: Performances of Kenneth MacMillan's *Romeo and Juliet* replace the previously announced revival of his *Prince of the Pagodas*. Darcey Bussell and Jonathan Cope dance the title parts on Friday 17 and Wednesday 22 at 7.30pm; there will be further showings in April. Also given this week is *Giselle* with Viviana Durante on Tuesday 14 at 7.30pm and Saturday 18 at 7pm, and Sarah Wildor makes her debut on Saturday 18 at 2pm.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (0171-304 4000).

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET: Two performances of Ashton's *La fille mal gardée*, the most touching of all modern ballets, end the brief London season today at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. In between, a chance to see how the company nurtures young choreographers with a special showing in the Lilian Baylis studio theatre at 6.15pm of *Dives Jives with Lazarus*, a new work by Jillian Mackrill to a score by Nigel Swinford.
Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (0171-278 8916).

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

THE LIVE BED SHOW: Looking like a mushroom with a hangover, Paul Merton woos Caroline Quentin with lugubrious love-letters and doleful, self-deprecating quips. As a study of the British way of sex, Arthur Smith's play is an anthropologist's delight, at once unfunny and hilarious.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (0171-494 5093). Evenings, Monday to Thursday, 8pm; Friday and Saturday, 8.45pm; matinées: Friday and Saturday at 6.30pm.

THE THREE LIVES OF LUCIE CABROL: Do not be daunted by the Theatre de Complicite's fancy name and *haute couture* image. This is a touching celebration of the spirit of survival as embodied by Lilo Baur's saltily sympathetic peasant, smuggler and eccentric.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2 (0171-379 5399). Evenings, Monday to Friday, 7.30pm; Saturdays, 8pm; matinée: Saturday, 2.30pm.

● *More theatre, page 6.*

FILMS

Geoff Brown

HEAVENLY CREATURES (18): The New Zealand director Peter Jackson leaps into the front league with this compelling, imaginative retelling of the strange, fatal friendship between two Christchurch girls in the early 1950s. Murder is the end product, but gore plays little part. Instead Jackson sweeps us up into the girls' thoughts and carries us through a chain of events that are bizarre and hilarious, scary and erotic, touching and chilling. Some of the girls' imaginings are created with plasticine figures. But the film, most adroitly cast, and shot wherever possible in the original locations, retains a human face to the end.



Heavenly Creatures: Melanie Lynskey and Kate Winslet

Gate (0171-727 4043); **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691); **MGM Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636); **Renoir** (0171-837 8402); **Richmond** (0181-332 0030); **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772); **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366).

STAR TREK: GENERATIONS (PG): Patrick Stewart and other stars of *Star Trek: The Next Generation* television series make their film debut in a cumbersomely plotted but acceptable adventure that should pave the way for better things. To bridge the gap between *Star Trek* crews, William Shatner's Captain Kirk is on hand to offer tongue-in-cheek remarks ("I take it the odds are against us, and the outlook is grim?"). The villain of the piece is Malcolm McDowell, a megalomaniac keen to harness the galaxy's energy ribbons.
Empire (0800 888911); **MGMs Baker Street** (0171-935 9772), **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636), **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031); **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332).

● *More films, page 6.*

CHILDREN

LONDON

Make a Lion Head and Chinese lanterns, take a crash course in the martial art T'ai chi, and watch acrobats and musicians as part of the Chinese New Year workshop.
Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington SW7 (0171-938 8500). Today and tomorrow from 1.30-4pm. Admission free.

Hot Shoe Shuffle: Tap show.
Churchill Theatre, Bromley (0181-460 6677). Last day today at 2.30pm and 7.45pm. Adults from £8.50, children from £6.50.

Major Mustard's Magical Mustard Pot: Puppet show for three to seven-year-olds. *Cinderella* for four to eight-year olds (also puppet show).
Major Mustard: Little Angel Theatre, 14 Dagmar Passage, off Cross Street, N1 2DN (0171-226 1787). Today and tomorrow at 11am; Cinderella: Today and tomorrow at 3pm. Adults £5, children £4.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

ROALD DAHL'S CHILDREN'S EXHIBITION: Feeling brave? Then test out the Feely Box (put hand in box and guess object). Less scary attractions include original Quentin Blake illustrations, colouring competition, video.
Buckinghamshire County Museum, St Mary's Square, Aylesbury (01296 88849). Today from 10am-1.30pm and from 2pm-5pm. Closed tomorrow. Until March 4. Admission free.



Children's writer Roald Dahl

CHESHIRE

George's Marvellous Medicine: Extended tour of Roald Dahl's riveting tale.
Lyceum Theatre, Crewe (01270 537333). Starts Wednesday 15 at 10am and 1.30pm. Various times until Sat 18. Adults from £6.50 upwards, children £6.

HERTFORDSHIRE

Symbols in Silk: Exhibition of Chinese court costumes and textiles from the Qing Imperial Court (1644-1911). Workshops during half-term week (week beginning Feb 20).
Museum of St Albans, Hatfield Road, St Albans (01727 819340). Today, 10am-5pm; tomorrow, 2pm-5pm. Admission free.

SCOTLAND

STAR TREK: THE EXHIBITION. Come and marvel at this life-size model of the Enterprise and learn all about its crew.
City Arts Centre, Edinburgh (0131-558 1018). Today from 10am-5.30pm and tomorrow from noon-5pm. Adults £3.50, children £2. Family ticket (two plus two) £9.

TYNE AND WEAR

Creepy Crawly Roadshow: Giant size replicas of insects, spiders and their relatives.
Hancock Museum, the University, Newcastle upon Tyne (0191-222 7418). Starts Thur 16. Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm, Sundays 2pm-5pm. Adults £1.80, children £1, under-fours free.

WALES

World School Debating Championships: Pick up tips on how to talk persuasively. Suitable for teenagers upwards.
St David's Hall, The Hayes, Cardiff (01222 342611). Today, 6.15pm. Free.

YORKSHIRE

Circus Workshop Open Day: Juggling, acrobatics, trapeze stunts and face-painting to celebrate the opening of the new Circus Arts Centre.
Green Top, Circus Centre, Holywell Road, Brightside, Sheffield, South Yorkshire (0114 2560962). Today at 2pm. Admission free.

Jorvik Festival Craft Day: Candlemaking, leatherwork and more. Also Viking longboat regatta from 10am-4pm along the River Ouse between Skeldergate and Ouse Bridges. Admission free.
Hospitium, Museum Gardens, York (01904 611944). Today at 9.30am. Children 50p.

JANE BIDDER

Ruth Gledhill deserts the office for a one-day retreat to Alton Abbey in Hampshire

AT YOUR SERVICE



AFTER ALTON Abbey was described to me by one regular visitor as the "best-kept secret in the Church of England" it became my religious duty to visit and ensure it no longer remained so. The same visitor, an "oblate" or lay member who lives outside but remains in close contact with the community, described it as the place to go when you need six weeks holiday but can only spare a day. It sounded perfect.

The Abbey is that rare combination of the Anglican and Catholic which appears to work, a community of men who follow the Benedictine "Rule", or monastic way of life, within the Church of England. St Benedict's rule, considered one of the most important factors in the foundation of western civilisation, is the norm for all Western monks and, as a Christian guide for living, has had incalculable influence on our educational and legal systems.

When I arrived in time for candlemass, the monastery was still settling down after the brief flurry of publicity which followed the decision by the Bishop of Portsmouth, the Right Rev Timothy Bavin, to exchange his purple for the black monastic habit and join Alton Abbey as a postulant next year. Ever in need of retreat, I was on a "desert day", a material escape from the office, if not the mobile phone or pager, and a chance to recuperate spiritually.

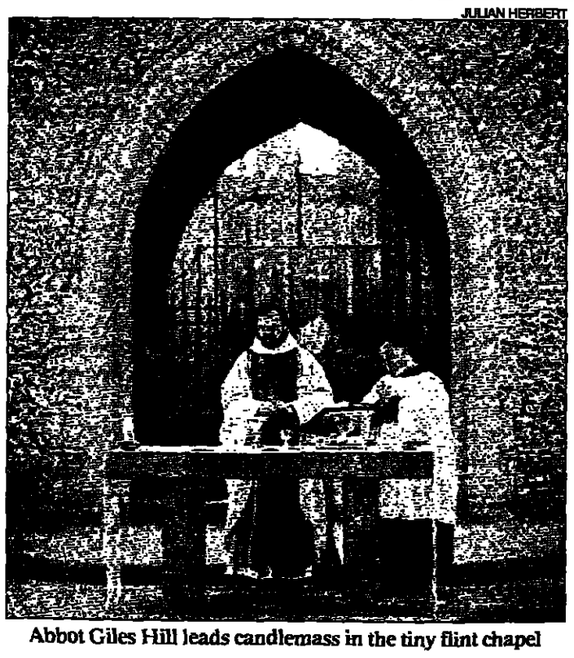
Mass was the third "divine office" or service of a day which, for the seven monks at Alton, began at 5.30am with the vigil, went on to morning prayer (*lauds*) at 7.15am through mass at 9am, midday office (*sext*), evening prayer (*vespers*) at 5pm and night prayer (*compline*) at 8.30pm. In line with most men's Benedictine houses the monastery recently dropped the use of the traditional Latin names and no longer holds the morning office of *tierce* or the afternoon office, *none*. Our candlemass, on the Feast of the Presentation, which marks the end of the Christmas period and the beginning of the run-up to Lent and Easter, was led by youthful, charismatic abbot, Dom Giles Hill. After the monks processed in holding candles, followed by a surprisingly large congregation which almost filled the tiny flint chapel, he said: "Bless these candles and make them holy. May we who carry them praise your glory and walk in the heart of goodness."

Monks enter Alton Abbey as postulants, which they remain for between three and six months, then become novices for 12 months and one day. If they wish to carry on they apply for election and must gain a two-thirds majority from the other monks before they can take the junior vows of obedience, conversion of life and stability.

Novices remain in junior vows for three years, when they must apply for election to solemn vows, which are the same as junior vows except they have lifelong commitment. Contrary to popular belief, Benedectines have never taken vows of poverty and chastity, although these principles are implicit in their vows.

The last monk to join Alton was Anselm Shobrooke, more than four years ago. He has gone on to achieve a worldwide reputation as an iconographer. Of the seven monks, aged from 34 to 80, three are ordained and four are brothers, the only practical difference being that the priests can celebrate the eucharist. Besides desert day, retreatants can go to Alton Abbey for weekends studying Jane Austen with Dom Nicholas Seymour, the guestmaster and a leading expert on the author, and for an icon painting week with Brother Anselm.

JULIAN HERBERT



Abbot Giles Hill leads candlemass in the tiny flint chapel

The monastery was founded as a religious order in 1884 by the Rev Charles Hopkins to care for merchant seamen. Fr Hopkins spent his first night sleeping in a tent, and for the first few years the monastery consisted of tin huts. Over coffee, the oldest monk, Dom Peter, who had been there for 58 years, explained his vocation. He said he had been a journalist on the *Hull Daily Mail*. "I always wanted to be a monk, from the age of seven. But I felt I ought to earn an ordinary living first. When I came here there were no electric lights or hot water. I have no regrets. I still enjoy it enormously. There is a certain peace about it."

Alton Abbey, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 4AP.

ABBOT: The Rt Rev Dom Giles Hill.

ARCHITECTURE: Parts are recognised as masterpieces of 1930s architecture. The monastic buildings, in local flint, were designed by Sir Charles Nicholson who used Tintern Abbey on the Welsh borders as his model. ★★★★

MUSIC: Strangely evocative Gregorian plainsong, chants predating the Middle Ages. ★★★★

LITURGY: Based on the monastic divine office. The Abbey is in the process of revising its liturgies, in modern English but ancient-sounding in tone. ★★★★

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Unparalleled. Coffee and tea, lunch of chilli, supper of sausage rolls and baked beans, plus numerous monks and clergy on hand to offer spiritual succour. ★★★★★

SPIRITUAL HIGH: Cloistral and contemplative. ★★★★

** stars are awarded to a maximum of five.*



Anne Cook and Stephen Clark met through *The Times*



Cover photograph of Anne Cook and Stephen Clark, and feature photographs, by GRAHAM TROTT

Flowers by PULBROOK & GOULD

From America, *The Bachelor Book* and *The Bachelorette Book* are glossy mail-order catalogues of eligible men and women. Similar magazines may soon be launched here

Continued from page 1

photograph she had sent me didn't help. It was of her wearing a balaclava, sitting on a horse which was standing in a snowy field." Two answerphone messages later, they finally spoke to each other. "We talked for two hours the first time, it was mostly about how nervous we were, how we preferred water-skiing to doing the washing-up and the horrors of commuting," Stephen says.

They arranged to meet at Harry's Bar in London on a Friday night, but an hour before the date Anne felt too nervous and cancelled. "I felt so guilty afterwards that I rang up Stephen and apologised. I suggested he should come over to my house on the Sunday even though I knew it was mad to invite a stranger home," she says.

"The first thing I noticed when Stephen arrived was that we were wearing similar clothes: jeans, white T-shirts and blue blazers." Stephen only remembers seeing a tall, gaunt blonde and deciding he wanted to fatten her up.

They went out to lunch, and Stephen explained that he'd met his first wife at a disco when he was 21. They had had three children but had drifted apart over the years.

Eventually, Stephen, who works for an insurance company, had moved out, and had started dating someone from his office. After that relationship ended, he had become incredibly depressed, and had lost contact with all his old friends. Then, he spotted Anne's advert and plucked up the courage to reply.

By lunchtime on the Monday Anne and Stephen had already called each other three times. "We didn't kiss on the first few dates. We were quite proper and met each other's families first," Stephen says. "My children and my ex-wife thought Anne would be a leather-clad biker because she had a huge motorcycle, but once they'd met her, they all came to adore her. And I convinced her family I wasn't a bounder."

> 'You may have to kiss some toads, but there are princes'

Three weeks later Stephen proposed to Anne in a traffic jam as they commuted into London together. Four weeks later, Stephen moved in with Anne and started building her a conservatory — now complete — and this autumn they are planning to get married in Jamaica.

But how perilous is it to meet a partner in this way? Last year, Ann Mead, a south London GP, was beaten to death by Brian Vale, who became fixated with her during a five-month affair. They had met after he replied to her lonely heart advert in the *New Statesman* magazine.

Jenny, a journalist living in a small village in Sussex, has been placing adverts in *The Times*'s Rendezvous column for the past three years, ever since her husband walked out, leaving her to bring up their two children alone. "It is incredibly difficult to meet new people when you have children. My friends are all couples, everyone at work is female, and there seems to be a dearth of eligible men in Sussex. So I decided to advertise," she says.

"One of the replies was from a headmaster, who raised my hopes until the conversation turned to his corporal punishment of boys and how did I feel about watching. Another just wanted a surrogate mother, and one started his letter with: 'Despite my debilitating skin disease . . .' I stupidly also met one at home on the first date. He said he was a good-looking Christian. He turned out to be creepy with greasy hair, and he had bought me a red lace garter. I showed him the door but he kept sending me underwear."

This hasn't deterred Jenny, but she has some tips for that first date. "Make sure you meet them in a public place, and tell someone where you are. Then you can make your excuses and leave if you think they are wrong for you. It's no more dangerous than meeting someone at a party or a wedding, and it is cheaper and more entertaining than going on a singles' holiday. You have much more control if you place the ad. You can sift through the replies, ring them at work and do some checking. You may have to kiss one or two toads, but there are some princes," Jenny says.

Mark, a solicitor in Exeter, used *The Times* because he thought that, at 35, he was too old to chat up women in bars, and anyway they were usually boring. "One girl wrote that she had painted her bathroom black and had rigged up the toilet to play the Funeral March when it was flushed. But, on the whole, they were great women, feisty and amusing, and I have been living with a girl I met through my ad for more than a year now."

Virginia Ironside, the agony aunt for *Today* newspaper, says she receives sackfuls of letters asking whether she recommends placing or replying to a lonely heart advert or joining a dating agency. "Trust your instincts about the people you blind date," she says. "Any hint of them being weird and you should say goodbye straight away. Otherwise, I am in favour of ads and dating agencies. People work so hard and move around so much now that they can't rely on their family and friends to introduce them to people."

Robin Dunbar, professor of psychology at Liverpool University, has been studying the growth of lonely heart adverts in Britain for the past three years and is astonished by how fast they have caught on.

These adverts first appeared in America in the 1880s, when pioneers sought wives who would cross the great plains with them. But the adverts acquired an unsavoury reputation, and young women soon stopped using them. While marriage bureaux and matchmakers flourished in America and Britain, personal adverts did not reappear until the 1970s.

The Times began its Rendezvous column six years ago. Margaret Harper, who runs the column, says: "Most advertisers are looking for someone to spend the rest of their lives with. We reject ads from people asking for bed sports or S&M, as well as married people looking for an affair."

But what should you include in an advert? According to Professor Dunbar, men tend to be more interested in looks and age, while women want maturity, status, wealth or humour — and, increasingly, someone who can vacuum the floor. "As men get older they get more picky; as women get older they will trade a slim lothario for a kind-hearted man, interested in the arts and fond of pasta."

The coding in the adverts is subtle. People never specify the area in which they live unless it is impressive, and they want you to know. In Britain, people indicate wealth by whether they are educated and own a car and a house, but never by their salary. "Educated" can mean one O level, "professional" can be anything above a filing clerk, and "cuddly" usually does mean fat. But you can tell a lot after the first telephone call or letter, and a fat chiropodist with a great sense of humour may be just what you are looking for.

Judging by their adverts, *Times* readers are either phenomenally attractive and a boon to their bank managers, or they don't regard truthfulness as a key virtue. Advertisers in London's listing magazine, *Time Out*, tend to be more relaxed — "Lazy man seeks lazy woman for long mornings in bed" — and adverts placed by gay people tend to be far more blunt. The same applies to married people who are looking for a fling and advertise in the *Spectator* and *New Statesman* — "Attractive, petite, married, honey blonde is looking for a sophisticated, solvent, professional businessman for casual afternoon interludes."

For those who can't face singing their own praises in newsprint, there are dating agencies, from the specialist ones for vegetarians, smokers, plump people, disabled people, or single parents, to the more general, such as Dateline, which promises to be "the start of many thousands of love stories". Then there are the dinner party dating agencies, where you can meet eight men and women and check them out over the grilled goat's cheese and taramasalata.

If you decide on an agency, always make sure it is approved by the Association of British Introduction Agencies, which insists that stringent checks are made on clients — from addresses and telephone numbers to bank accounts.

One agency which advertises in the Rendezvous column, Drawing Down The Moon, caters for middle-class professionals. Mary Balfour set up the agency ten years ago and now has more than 800 hopefuls on her books, each paying £734 a year to be introduced to other clients. Only 20 per cent of those who apply to join are accepted.

> 'Most clients are high-flyers who need someone to sort out their lives for them'

"To join, you either need to be born into the middle class, have been educated into it or have a professional job. We find people from different classes just don't mix. Clients are apprehensive at the beginning that dating agencies are for losers but actually most people on my books are high-flyers who need someone to sort out their private lives in the same way they need accountants, doctors and decorators."

The agency's formula is remarkably successful. At any one time, about 45 per cent of the clients are "on hold together", meaning they are "an item" and out of circulation.

Initially, clients fill in a two-page profile on the films and music they like, their credit worthiness, which sports or exercise they prefer, their political persuasion, and the newspapers they read, and they attach a current photograph. Then they wait to be chosen. "Looks do influence people, but you don't have to be beautiful. Everyone has a vague idea of the type of face they like. Most men don't like pictures of women in glasses or hats and women don't like men with moustaches," Mrs Balfour says. She also finds it difficult to match people aged over 43 and under 27 and prefers everyone to have had "a little previous experience".

Being matched with a mate may seem a little like applying for a romantic credit card. But Robert Proops, 50, a graphic designer, says the process is not as painful as it sounds. He went to Drawing Down the Moon after the break-up of his marriage and the end of a long-term relationship.

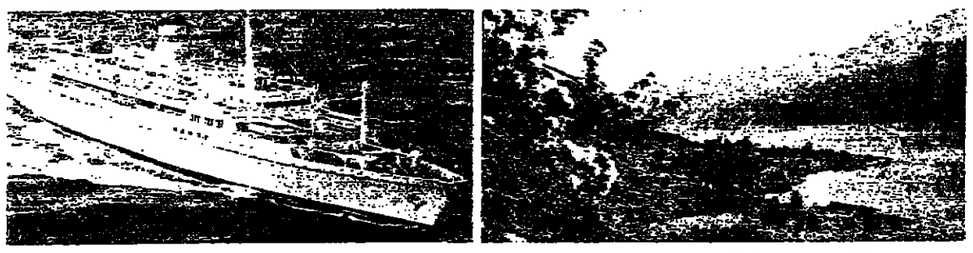
"It reconstructed my ego. You are sent profiles of people who want to meet you and you start to think maybe life is not all that bad. You always have someone to go to the cinema with or to the theatre and there are endless picnics. You have a brilliant social life. I'm open about going to a dating agency. When one of my friends recently got married, the bride was desperate that he didn't mention in his speech that they met through a dating agency, which was a shame. There are a lot of lonely people who don't need to be. Why are we still squeamish about these old-fashioned ideas of how to fall in love?" he says.

The Americans have gone one step further. Single women can now let their fingers do the walking through a glossy mail-order catalogue — or "male order" as the cover boasts — of eligible bachelors, each checked out by private detectives. For $5.95, *The Bachelor Book* offers photographs and addresses of professionals who are rich, funny and clever, with references from their mothers, sisters or former wives bearing witness that the man is "a real nice guy". Mindi Rudan, the magazine's publisher, is now thinking of launching a similar magazine in Britain. "It was my grandmother's idea. She thought that it was a shame that so many of my female friends were single and unhappy. She used to say there is a cover for every pot somewhere, so why not do a bit of rummaging around?"

● *Saturday Rendezvous, page 16*

THE TIMES

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Tues 14 Feb 7.30pm	VALENTINE'S DAY LOVE CLASSICS Lon. Conc. Orch., Paul Wynne Griffiths cond., Sarah Beth Briggs piano. Tchaikovsky Fantasy Ov. Romeo & Juliet Grieg Piano Concerto Bizet Carmen Suite Ravel Bolero J Strauss Roses from the South Waltz A red rose for every lady in the audience £25 £22 £19.50 £13.50 £9.50 Raymond Gubbay Ltd
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Sunday 12 Feb 11.30 am NBL starting time	ST LAWRENCE STRING QUARTET Coffee Concert. Mozart: Quartet in B flat K458 The Hunt. Beethoven: Quartet in A minor Op.132 £7 including programme and coffee/sherry/juice Wigmore Hall
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Wednesday 15 Feb 6.00 pm NBL starting time	HAUSMUSIK Master Concert. with Andrew Staier fortepiano. Mozart: Duo in G K423. Schubert: Piano Quintet in A D667 The Trout. All seats £7 Wigmore Hall/BBC Radio 3
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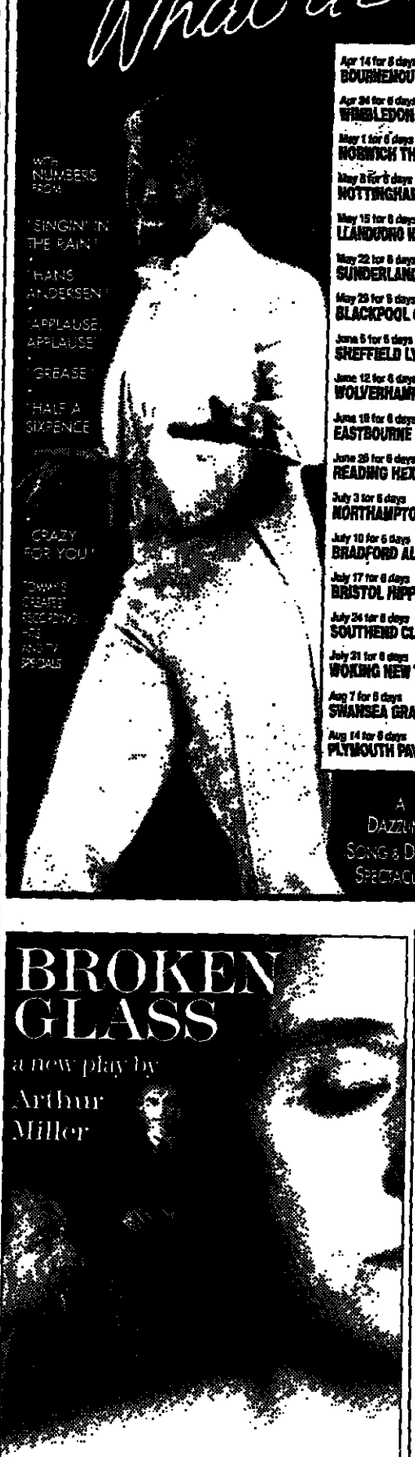
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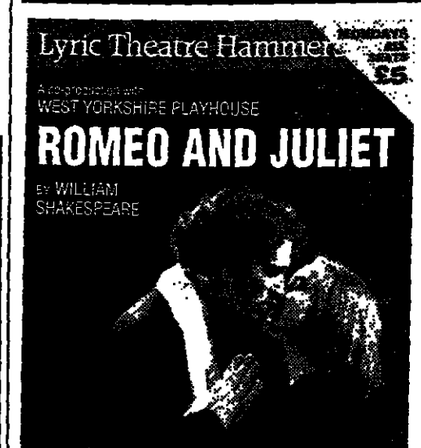
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Time to revive noble art of heckling

IN THE ARTS



RICHARD MORRISON

I wish that I had been at the *premiere* on Tuesday of *Live Bed Show*. Not because I am a special fan of Paul Merton, the dough-faced humorist. Nor because I wish to watch him and his wife, Caroline Quentin, prancing around all night in pyjamas on the Garrick stage. (Sorry, am I revealing too much of the plot?)

No, it is because one frustrated punter, perhaps misled by the play's title into expecting something a little raunchier, grew restless with all the dialogue, and yelled "get yer kit off!" at the performers. They didn't, of course. But this rare incident makes me ponder once again why audiences today are so well-mannered.

Of course, the injunction "get yer kit off" is not always going to be apposite. I doubt, for instance, whether it could usefully be shouted during *Macbeth*, since these days the somnambulant Lady M is already likely to be starkers, in pursuit of what theatre directors mysteriously call "subtext" ("You're doing the scene naked, dear, because you've got *naked* ambition — geddit?").

But when folk have paid good money for a show that is unquestionably atrocious, why *are* they so polite? Why don't they just shout "rubbish!" there and then? What strange stiff-upper-lip, don't-make-a-scene-darling mentality forces them to bottle up their wrath for hours until, perhaps over a comforting cup of cocoa, they will glumly observe to their loved one that they didn't understand a *damn word all evening*?

I remember (how could I forget?) the first night, at Glyndebourne in 1987, of Nigel Osborne's opera, *The Electrification of the Soviet Union*. Splendid title, shame about the tunes, but that's not the point. It was staged by the "whizz-kid" American director Peter Sellars, and very oddly staged too. Sellars clearly felt that the problem with opera is that it tends to have an awful lot of *music* in it. So he hit on a wizard wheeze to pep up this particular opera. He would insert some silence. Not just a few seconds of nothing-much-happening. We are talking monastery-sized silence-bites here.

Thus, at what seemed to be a moment chosen at random, the action froze. The music froze. The characters froze — and stayed frozen for several minutes. I had no idea why. I still don't. It was preposterous, and afterwards people rolled about laughing at it.

But the point is that *at the time* we just sat there like petrified children who had been told to shut up by a fierce chemistry teacher. Not a giggle came from us, let alone the full-blooded cry of "get a move on, you pretentious twerp" that Sellars so richly deserved.

Audiences today are much too kind. Perhaps we think that if we treat bad performers nicely they will get better. They won't; they will be encouraged to do more. We in the stalls should pepper them with invective — mercilessly, loudly, rudely. The noble tradition of the Glasgow Empire — feared by every thespian in the trade — should be revived instantly. Remember the bitter exit-line of the humiliated Archie Rice in *The Entertainer*? "Let me know where you're working tomorrow night, and I'll come and see *you*." Today, it is impossible to imagine even an Archie Rice being given the bird.

Nor is this milk-sop timidity confined to the theatre. Why does the Wimbledon crowd submit to an umpire's command of "quiet please, ladies and gentlemen"? Good heavens, if I had spent £500 buying a men's-final ticket from a tout, I would feel a perfect right to shout "You're a wimp, Goran Ivanisevic!" just as he lifted his arm to serve. And if Mr Ivanisevic then mis-hit the ball somewhere in the direction of Tooting, and glared accusingly at me, I would reflect that people earning millions from tennis really ought to learn how to serve while someone else, who is paying £500 a ticket, is shouting at them.

Which brings us to That Eric Cantona Incident. Our hot-blooded fallen-hero may well have been taunted verbally by the fan whose chest collided so spectacularly with the Most Famous Boots in Football. It is indeed possible that the fan used words even more provocative than "get yer kit off!". Consequently some Cantona apologists have opined that the fan was at least partly responsible for "sparking off" the incident. But isn't hurling abuse at players the whole point of paying to watch an English football match? Or have I missed some hidden finesse?

Of course, *some* audiences are just as voluble as football crowds when displeased. In Italian opera houses, the insulting of visiting tenors who fluff their top Bs is an art-form in itself. And at rock concerts you can shout all the filth you like; nobody will hear a thing.

But in general audiences behave with distressing decorum. There are famous exceptions. When Kenneth Branagh did *Look Back in Anger* — not one of his finest career decisions — one woman jumped up at the first night and shouted "I'm not taking this any more". On the whole, later critical opinion was on her side. Such incidents are famous, though, precisely because they are isolated. Mostly, we sit and suffer.

Now, however, there is hope. When the new Globe opens — the magnificent Elizabethan theatre being reconstructed at Southwark — I understand that, in the interests of authenticity, audiences will be encouraged to hurl abuse at the performers, just as the groundlings would have done in Shakespeare's day. That's the good news. The bad news is that they might book Cantona to play *Hamlet*.

'Fry's country, right or wrong

Alan Franks talks to actor Stephen Fry about loyalty, betrayal and laziness

ADRIAN BROOKS



Stephen Fry as double agent George Blake: "We have extremely little in common"

There are so many engaging reasons to ask Stephen Fry what parallels he finds between himself and the escaped traitor, George Blake, that only a spoilsport would desist.

The first, and least, is that he is playing him in Simon Gray's new stage play, *Cell Mates*. The second is that in Gray's portrayal the former intelligence officer is so schooled in deceit that he too would have been well qualified to write a novel called *The Liar*. The third is that Fry spent three months of his own youth in a remand centre for credit card fraud.

The fourth, and most relevant for present purposes, is that last year he was the target of a rabid attack by two former pupils of his old public school, Uppingham. This took place at the ragged end of the school's annual reunion, and what he was being accused of was, in essence, treachery. The old boys bawled him out at the bar as anti-monarchist, anti-public school, communist and homosexual. In almost every respect, they had got the wrong man.

If they had said he was celibate and a supporter of the Labour Party, they would have been nearer the mark.

"For the first time in my life," says Fry, "I felt I was confronting something of what fascism is. I found it astonishing and horrifying, but also appallingly cowardly because after I had left they beat up someone half my height who had come to my aid. He, as it happens, was a member of the Conservative Party."

And is he now, or has he ever been, a member of a group devoted to the downfall of Uppingham and its ilk?

"I have never betrayed Uppingham," he declares. "One of the things I said that evening was that I hoped I would never turn into one of those people who complain about how ghastly their public school was, and mock their old teachers. I think the majority of teachers there were extremely kind and did their very best. I am proud of that in the same way that I am proud of being British.

"And one of the reasons I am proud is this ability of ours to produce people who rewrite what it is to be British. Dickens was not a great novelist just because he stood on a hill-top and said how beautiful the view was. He destroyed institutions with the power of his words. He forced the middle classes to look at them and see how cruel and woeful they were. That is what great British people do. Auden becomes venerated, having once been despised, Amis becomes a grand old man, having been an angry young one. I can't bear 'my country right or wrong'."

Nor could George Blake. In 1961 he was jailed for 42 years for his part in disclosing the identities of several hundred British agents to the Soviet authorities. Five years later he escaped from Wormwood Scrubs, was harboured by sympathisers in London and then smuggled in the secret compartment of a van to an East German autobahn. Without the help of an habitual felon called Sean Bourke (played here by Rik Mayall), he would not have made the break-out. While Bourke seems to have been motivated by plain friendship and a sense of injustice over the term, Blake — at least the Blake of *Cell Mates* — had virtually no deliberations that were not of a political nature. This juxtaposition gives the playwright access to a theme which is in constant flow across the face of Grayland — *the nature of loyalty*.

Fry reckons that Gray's own loyalty to actors helped him to land this part: he has already appeared in two plays by the same author, *Old Flames* and *The Common Pursuit*. Gray, he says, is not a political animal, but a product of the Leavisite tradition in which human values and personal relationships are paramount. When at this point the name of E.M. Forster comes up, there is an inevitability about it, for they are all *Cambridge men: Forster, Leavis, Gray, Fry*. And it was the novelist who famously said that if it came to a choice between betraying country and betraying friends, he hoped to God he would have the guts to do the former.

> "I am proud of this ability of ours to produce people who rewrite what it is to be British"

Although Fry is an articulate Labour man and a witty, splenetic scourge of the new Tories, it becomes clear as he invokes Forster and Gray that their priorities are his own as well. "There are those who live in the vertical plane, aren't there, and those who live in the horizontal. We are in the realm of that old cliché of the Marxist who weeps at the plight of the masses but can be cruel and mean in his personal behaviour. I am the kind of sentimentalist who believes that dealings with ordinary people on an everyday level are more important than politics."

He says he is dishonest, but I suspect he is being dishonest. I tell him so and he explains himself as follows: "When people say I am industrious, I say, ah, that's because I am lazy. And because I know I am lazy, I fight like the dickens to counteract that. Similarly, I try to be honest because I know I am fundamentally dishonest. At core I am a shiftless, lazy figure and I have to use a lot of energy to stop myself being that, whereas there are many who are at core honest and industrious and do not have to expend any energy in order to be those things."

I am tempted to say that he has just described a motivated person rather than a feckless one, but I have a strong feeling that he would prove me wrong. What can be said with certainty is that evidence of *indolence is lacking*. Apart from this busy acting life on stage and TV, he is completing a screenplay for Paramount and bracing himself for a third novel. To rework the Forster question: which would he betray if push came to shove? The writing or the acting? "Oooh, that would be the devil of a choice. Certainly the writing would be the *easier* to abandon because it's like being permanently at school or university and waking up every morning to an *essay crisis*."

But the dilemma is notional, and far removed from Blake's. "Actually, I have extremely little in common with him," he concludes. "I do disguise my emotions occasionally, but I have never manipulated people in that extraordinary way. I simply don't behave as he does." If Fry is dissembling on this, he is making a thoroughly professional job of it.

● Cell Mates *opens on February 16 at the Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730)*

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

DAMIAN LEWIS



Profession: Actor

Age: 23

Claim to fame: *The New York Times* hailed him as "The new Ralph Fiennes? The next Hugh Grant?"

Distinctive features: Six foot. Flaming red hair. "I wasn't aware of my hair until critics started talking about it as part of the performance," says Lewis good-humouredly. "Maybe there's a whole play going on on top of my head."

Roots: Celtic originally, but grew up on the St John's Wood-Kilburn border. He was acting with his siblings at about five, then realised he wanted to do it professionally at 16 when he and school friends set up a company.

What's he totted up so far? An impressive amount. Talent-spotted before he had finished at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, he appeared at Birmingham Rep playing the psychopathic Brandon in *Rope*, then as Romeo. A month later, he was at the Almeida for Molière's *School for Wives*, and this summer he played Hamlet in Regent's Park.

Whatever next? He is about to be seen playing Laertes to Fiennes's Prince in Jonathan Kent's production of *Hamlet which tours, then transfers to Broadway*.

What's it like as Laertes? "It took quite a time," says Lewis, "to stop seeing Laertes judgmentally from Hamlet's point of view. I drove the director mad."

But about being the new Fiennes-Grant all-in-one phenomenon? "Ah," says Lewis, who wisely doesn't take himself too seriously, "the challenge is clearly how to combine them both in my next performance, in five lines."

What about screen acting? Lewis has been in *Mickey Love* (a Rik Mayall presentation) and *Poirot*. "Camera acting uses a very different muscle. I thought it might be oppressive, but I found it focusing and liberating," says Lewis with articulate enthusiasm. "But I certainly don't regard film as where I want to end up. I don't have any great crusade tucked away in my folder, but the importance of theatre lies in the audience's ability to listen and work. Cinema is far more passive."

On himself: "I still sing Elvis Presley songs in the mirror: that's as bad as I'm getting."

KATE BASSETT

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

Surviving Hollywood

Actress Carrie Fisher, daughter of Debbie Reynolds and Eddie Fisher, knows the damage that can be wrought by a childhood spent under the Hollywood spotlight. She is determined that the same curse will not afflict her own child — but, she tells Carol Sarler, she is damned if she knows how to avoid it . . .

Carrie talks candidly — in The Magazine, The Sunday Times tomorrow

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Thursday, February 23.

WEST END ENTERTAINMENT

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

■ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'**: The Fats Waller musical show: an evening of stomping, tapping, exuberant song and dance.
Tricycle, Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Sat, 4pm. Returns in person at the box office from 7pm only, until Feb 25 Ⓢ

□ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE**: Nigel Hawthorne plays the dilapidated Lord Ogleby and directs a strong cast in this good-hearted comedy about 18th-century greed, snobbery and true love.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm.

□ **CREDITORS**. Incoming production from Theatre Fusion of Strindberg's play for three characters, wife, new husband and embittered former husband.
Gate, Pembridge Roa W11 (0171-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3pm.

◪ **THE DANCE OF DEATH**: Strindberg's impassioned, sometimes comic, view of marriage as hell. Subtle characterisation by Gemma Jones and John Neville.
Almeida, Almeida St, N1 (0171-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm. Until Mar 4. Ⓢ

□ **DANGEROUS CORNER**: Keith Baxter directs an excellent cast in Priestley's psychological thriller about the grey areas in people's lives it is wiser not to probe into.
Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (0171-369 1735). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed 3pm and Sat 5pm. Until Mar 11.

□ **DEALER'S CHOICE**: Patrick Marber, co-writer of numerous Steve Coogan shows, directs his own first play, a comedy about an all-night poker game.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Today 2.30 and 7.30pm. Ⓢ

■ **THE DUCHESS OF MALFI**: With Juliet Stevenson as the victimised heroine and Simon Russell Beale her sadistic twin brother, this production (by Philip Franks) promises to be electrifying.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Now previewing, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Opens Mon Ⓢ

◪ **FEVER PITCH**: The one-man show adapted from Nick Hornby's best-selling account of a lifelong obsession with Arsenal FC. Stephen North takes us through 45 minutes each way.
Arts, Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-836 2132). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 6.15 (seats) and 8.30pm (sold out).

□ **FULL MOON**: Jon Strickland plays the hero of Caradog Prichard's powerful and haunting semi-autobiographical novel, set in the slatemine districts of North Wales. Helena Kaut-Howson's Theatr Clwyd production comes to London after a sell-out tour.
Young Vic, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat, from Feb 18, 2.30pm. Until Mar 4 Ⓢ

□ **MAMA I WANT TO SING**: The longest-running Off-Broadway black musical, based on the life of the Harlem singer Doris Troy (who here plays her own mother). Cast includes the charismatic Chaka Khan.
Cambridge, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Tue and Sat, 3pm. Until Apr 8.

□ **THE LIBERTINE**. Stephen Jeffreys's excellent portrait of the life and times of the rakehell Earl of Rochester. In rep with *The Man of Mode*.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Today, 3.30 and 7.30pm.

◪ **A PATCHWORK QUILT**. Tanya and her grandmother sew a patchwork of memories over four generations of a black family from the Deep South. Michael Miller's version of the children's book by Valerie Flournoy.
Polka, 240 The Broadway, Wimbledon, SW19 (0181-543 4888). Opens today, 2pm and 5.30pm. Most perfs for schools but with public perfs on Sats (usually 2pm and 5.30pm) and Tue-Fri (Feb 21-24, 11am and 2.30pm; Apr 4-7, 10.30am and 2pm). Until Apr 8. Ⓢ

◪ **ROMEO AND JULIET**: Inventive performance artist Emily Woof, in her first classical role, plays Juliet opposite Stuart Bunce's Romeo. Neil Bartlett directs the co-production with West Yorkshire Playhouse.
Lyric, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; Sat 2.30pm plus Feb 14, 18, 28, Mar 7, 1.30pm. Ⓢ

◪ **SUZANNA ANDLER**. Susan Hampshire plays the enigmatic heroine in Marguerite Duras's lyrical drama of late love. Lisa Forrell directs the author's recently revived text.

BAC 1, Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Tue-Sat, 7.30pm; Sun, 5.30pm. Until Feb 26. Ⓢ

■ **THE THREEPENNY OPERA**: Phyllida Lloyd's splendidly inventive revival of Kurt Weill's opera, with Tom Hollander. Words by the team of writers customarily known as "Bertolt Brecht".
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham St, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Ⓢ

◪ **THE VENETIAN TWINS**: Michael Bogdanov's knockabout production loses some of Goldoni's comedy. David Troughton plays both twins.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm. Ⓢ

◪ **THE YIDDISH TROJAN WOMEN**. Maria Charles plays the forgetful, memory-full grandmother in a strong Brooklyn drama, now comic, now tragic, about looking away from bad things.
Cockpit, Gateforth St, NW8 (0171-402 5081). Tue-Sun, 8pm; mat Sun, 4pm. Ⓢ

■ **ZORRO — THE MUSICAL**. The masked swashbuckler of comics legend returns to twirl his cape in Ken Hill's latest (and sadly last) musical romp.
Theatre Royal, Gerry Raffles Square, Stratford, E15 (0181-534 0310). Now previewing, 8pm. Opens Feb 14 Ⓢ

LONG RUNNERS

◪ **Arcadia**, Haymarket (0171-930 8800) . . . ■ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-867 1044) . . . ■ **Cats**: New London (0171-405 0072) . . . ■ **Copacabana**: Prince of Wales (0171-839 5972) . . . ■ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) . . . ◪ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (0171-494 5045) . . . ■ **Grease**: Dominion (0171-416 6060) . . . ■ **Hamlet**: Gielgud (0171-494 5065) . . . ■ **Les Misérables**: Palace (0171-434 0909) ■ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal (0171-494 5400) . . . ◪ **My Night With Reg**: Criterion (0171-839 4488) . . . □ **Neville's Island**: Apollo (0171-494 5070) . . . ■ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) . . . □ **On Approval**: Playhouse (0171-839 4401) . . . ◪ **A Passionate Woman**: Comedy (0171-369 1731) . . . □ **She Loves Me**: Savoy (0171-836 8888) . . . ◪ **The Sisters Rosensweig**: Old Vic (0171-928 7616) . . . ■ **Starlight Express**, Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665) . . . ■ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055) . . . ■ **Three Tall Women**: Wyndhams (0171-369 1736) . . . □ **Woman In Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

NEW ON VIDEO: Clothes and clichés in the Old West; dinner at Buñuel's place

■ **BAD GIRLS**
Fox Video, 15, 1994
HARD to believe in Andie MacDowell, Mary Stuart Masterston, Madeleine Stowe and Drew Barrymore as horse-riding prostitutes in the Old West: Barrymore apart, they appear to be modelling for an outdoor clothes catalogue. But if realism is in short supply, clichés are in abundance, from the usual bank thefts and gold shipment hijacks to lines of dialogue such as: "You're dead — I just ain't killed you yet!" Directed by the usually dependable Jonathan Kaplan. Available to rent.

■ **BEVERLY HILLS COP III**
CIC, 15, 1994
EDDIE Murphy can still grin, but the cocky strut and street-smart appeal that consolidated his stardom in the first *Cop* film have long been replaced by cardboard replicas. A middling, sanitised adventure for the maverick cop Axel Foley, who uncovers bad doings at a Los Angeles theme park. With Judge Reinhold and Hector Elizondo; John Landis directs. Available to rent.

■ **COUSIN COUSINE**
Arrow, 15, 1975
SOUFFLE cinema: a few bites, and it has gone. While you are eating, though, Jean-Charles Tacchella's social comedy about two French families united by marriage appears reasonably tasty, and certainly superior to the later American remake, *Cousins*. Marie-Christine Barrault is the slightly bored newlywed, Victor Lanoux the relative she falls for. None of Tacchella's later films have achieved a comparable international success.

■ **EDVARD MUNCH**
Academy, PG, 1976
PETER Watkins, director of *The War Game* and thorn in the Establishment's side, found a kindred spirit in Edvard Munch and created this three-and-a-half-hour epic to celebrate the painter's life, work and obsessions. The visual style is quasi-documentary, as though cameras and microphones were thrust into late 19th-century Oslo for on-the-spot reports. Watkins's own spoken commentary, heavy with facts and names, brings a touch of the classroom. An impressive achievement overall, both lyrical and monumental, but not the film for an idle moment.

■ **THE EXTERMINATING ANGEL**
Electric, 12, 1962
ONE of Buñuel's best films, with an audacious and simple premise: having arrived for supper at a friend's house, a rich gaggle of people find they have lost the ability to leave. Social decorum is gradually abandoned, violence looms, rubbish accumulates, sanitation worsens and several people die. Buñuel's crazy mirror on human society offers razor-sharp images, possible meanings galore and hilarious jokes.

Also available is Buñuel's 45-minute *Simon of the Desert*, made three years later, a wicked account of the tribulations of Simon Stylites, perched on a pillar in the Mexican desert.

■ **LITTLE BUDDHA**
Buena Vista, PG, 1994
A RUM mixture from Bernardo Bertolucci: one part magical fable for children about the Indian prince Siddhartha, founder of Buddhism; one part introductory course in spiritual enlightenment. The best scenes, set 25 centuries ago, shimmer with opulent images that approach *The Last Emperor* and give Keanu Reeves (a persuasive Siddhartha) a chance to atone for past bad performances. The modern story about a Seattle boy (Alex Wiesendanger) who might possibly be a reincarnated Lama proves less convincing.

GEOFF BROWN



Angels on horseback: from left, Madeleine Stowe, Mary Stuart Masterson, Drew Barrymore, Andie MacDowell

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

DALLAS DOLL (18): Golf guru Sandra Bernhard liberates the Sydney suburbs. A botched affair. writer-director Ann Turner.
Metro (071-437 0757)

HEAVENLY CREATURES (18): See Critics' Choice, page 2.

SOLITAIRE FOR 2 (15): Body-language lecturer pursues archeologist with ESP. Awkward comedy from "Pig Farmer" co-director Gary Sinyor. With Mark Frankel and Amanda Pays.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Plaza** Ⓢ (0800 888997) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **STAR TREK: GENERATIONS** (PG): See Critics' Choice, page 2.

CURRENT

THE ADVENTURES OF PRISCILLA, QUEEN OF THE DESERT (15): Two drag queens and a transsexual get stuck in the Australian outback. Joyful and vulgar romp with Terence Stamp and Hugo Weaving, director, Stephan Elliott.
MGM Piccadilly (0171-437 3561) **NFT**, Sun only (0171-928 3232) **Odeon Mezzanine** Ⓢ (01426 915683) **Plaza** (0800 888997)

AMATEUR (15): Amnesiac pornographer faces his past with a former nun's help. Quirky, touching, pseudo-thriller from Hal Hartley, with Martin Donovan and Isabelle Huppert.
MGM Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

BARCELONA (12): Whit Stillman's successor to *Metropolitan*, an agreeable blend of romance, politics and disco dancing, set during the early 1980s. With Taylor Nichols and Chris Eigeman.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426-915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)

EAT DRINK MAN WOMAN (PG): Delectable mosaic of Taipei family life from the director of *The Wedding Banquet*, Ang Lee.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722)

EVEN COWGIRLS GET THE BLUES (15): Unwieldy version of Tom Robbins's zany novel from cult director Gus Van Sant. Uma Thurman heads a cameo-strewn cast.
MGM Piccadilly (0171-437 3561)

◆ **FOUR WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL** (15): Mike Newell's smart social comedy with Hugh Grant and Andie MacDowell.
Odeon Mezzanine Ⓢ (01426 915683) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **Prince Charles**, today only (0171-437 8181)

◆ **I LIKE IT LIKE THAT** (15): Cheerful drama of Bronx family life from debuting director Darnell Martin; with Lauren Velez and Jon Seda.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (071-434 0031)

◆ **INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE** (18): Tom Cruise shows Brad Pitt the vampire way of life. Dull, over-stuffed version of Anne Rice's book. Director, Neil Jordan.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (0171-727 5705) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **JUNIOR** (PG): Juvenile jokes abound as Arnold Schwarzenegger gets pregnant. With Emma Thompson and Danny DeVito. Director, Ivan Reitman.
Empire (0800-888 911)

◆ **LEON** (18): Precious child shelters under a hitman's wing. Sleek, empty thriller shot in New York by French director Luc Besson. With Jean Reno, Natalie Portman and Gary Oldman.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **THE LION KING** (U): African lion cub almost loses his father's throne. Much hyped but charmless Disney cartoon, not meant for tiny tots.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** Ⓢ (01426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

THE MASK (PG): Strange mask turns mild bank employee into a wisecracking demon. Inventive vehicle for rubber-faced Jim Carrey, filled with the antic spirit of 1940s cartoons.
Odeon Mezzanine Ⓢ (01426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys**, today only Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

NOSTRADAMUS (15): Life and prophecies of the 16th-century legend. Preposterous Euro-pudding, with Tchéky Karyo and Amanda Plummer.
Odeon Mezzanine Ⓢ (01426 915683)

◆ **ONLY YOU** (PG): Marisa Tomei chases the man of her dreams through Italy. Lazy blend of comedy, romance and travelogue, with Robert Downey Jr. Director, Norman Jewison.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

LA REINE MARGOT (18): Bloody, brooding, occasionally impressive French history lesson, with Isabelle Adjani and Daniel Auteuil. Director, Patrice Chéreau.
Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426-914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)

◆ **THE ROAD TO WELLVILLE** (18): Frolics and chicanery at a turn-of-the-century sanitarium. Overdone health food satire, with Anthony Hopkins, Bridget Fonda, Matthew Broderick. Director, Alan Parker.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **SHALLOW GRAVE** (18): Wickedly enjoyable comedy-thriller about three Edinburgh chums and a corpse loaded with money. Danny Boyle directs.
Gate Ⓢ (0171-727 4043) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE SPECIALIST** (15): Sharon Stone hires explosives expert Sylvester Stallone to avenge her parents' murder. Empty concoction that wastes its stars. Luis Llosa directs; with Rod Steiger.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **STARGATE** (PG): Galactic adventures of Kurt Russell and James Spader. Preposterous, derivative but fun; Roland Emmerich directs.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** Ⓢ (01426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

SUTURE: Hypnotic melodrama with avant-garde trimmings from new American film-makers Scott McGehee and David Siegel.
Everyman Ⓢ (0171-435 1525) **ICA** Ⓢ (0171-930 3647)

THREE COLOURS: RED (15): Kieslowski's compelling film about criss-crossing lives; a majestic climax to his trilogy. With Irène Jacob and Jean-Louis Trintignant.
MGM Panton Street (0171-930 0631) **Minerva** (0171-235 4225)

Lies, damned lies, and wattage

If you come across a hi-fi system quoting impressive statistics such as watts rms, watts DIN or 'music power' — give it a wide berth

WRITING about hi-fi makes me acutely aware how impressed — or daunted — people are by performance figures. They assume you cannot evaluate equipment without batting abstruse statistics about like Steffi Graf on overdrive — an impression too many dealers and magazines do nothing to dispel.

But it simply is not so. As in any other field, statistics can be manipulated. Manufacturers misuse them, buyers misunderstand them — a perfect harmony of nonsense. Take the commonest, one everyone cites: even the catalogue store listings allot every little midi-system "20 watts per channel", or whatever. Most people assume it tells you how much sound the system can produce, 40 watts being louder than 20, just as a 100-watt lightbulb is brighter than a 60-watt. Actually, this is one of the classic hi-fi fallacies.

A watt is a unit of electrical power, so this figure refers only to a system's amplifier output. How it gets turned into sound depends on the loudspeakers, and these may differ widely — in their circuitry's electrical resistance, for one thing, rated in ohms. An amplifier delivering 20 watts to a speaker rated at 8 ohms, the commonest, will deliver 40 to a 4-ohm speaker, ten to a 16-ohm. Acoustic efficiency also varies: an "efficient" speaker will produce more actual sound from a given amount of power. By a paradox of physics, though, an "inefficient" speaker often sounds better.

Furthermore, this 20 watts or whatever is not what the amplifier puts out all the time — only what it can produce if necessary. Most of the time an amplifier uses only a tiny fraction of its potential power, and a good thing too. A musical signal contains many peaks, sharply increasing the power demand. The more of its potential power the amplifier is using, the nearer to its limits these peaks will take it, until it becomes overtaxed.

FUTURE VISIONS

Then the sound grows increasingly distorted, eventually turning into a nasty noise, a process known as "clipping" — to be avoided, because it can cause delicate speaker units to tear themselves apart, literally. An amplifier is happiest when used well below its limit, and yields its best results because it has more "elbow room" to reproduce the signal. A good amplifier such as the Quad I looked at in the last column is usually rated conservatively, at 70 watts, say, when it can yield 85, because that approaches the margins of its ideal performance — like a car's cruising speed as opposed to top speed.

As if all that were not enough, wattage can be differently assessed. The standard accepted by most reputable manufacturers is a kind of "divine average" called *root-mean-square*, or watts rms. Some, though — chiefly midi-system merchants — quote watts DIN — a geriatric Euro-standard — or "music power", consummately meaningless. These conveniently double the wattage. They do have one practical use, though: if you see a product quoting them, avoid it. And even watts rms can be fiddled . . .

After such a bombardment, you might well ask why anybody bothers to quote amplifier wattage at all. Actually it does provide a good rule of thumb for matching amplifiers to speakers, to produce a particular volume.

Even in this, though, you can be flexible. Keep the volume control down and you can use a high-wattage amplifier with lower-rated speakers — especially if, like Mordaunt-Short, some B&W and other models, they have overload protection circuits. But if you use an underpowered amplifier with high-rated speakers, you risk having to drive it to clipping levels, and giving your treble units a ripping time.

Almost any common hi-fi statistic — distortion, for example — can be misused as easily. You can generally rely on a reputable manufacturer's figures, but not as absolute guarantees — merely indicators that your own ears and judgment can confirm. *Prima le musiche, poi le parole* — and all the statistics in the world will not alter that.

MICHAEL SCOTT ROHAN

Take two of Britain's funniest people, dump them under the duvet, and see what happens — at a special Theatre Club price

In bed with Paul Merton

THE TIMES THEATRE CLUB

WHEN comic Paul Merton proposed to comic Caroline Quentin he went down on one knee, in the approved manner — but in Piccadilly Circus, next to the Statue of Eros. But then Merton has become famous for his spontaneity, being hilarious off the top of his head on radio (*Just A Minute*), television (*Have I Got News For You*) and, of course, as one of the country's best stand-up comedians. Quentin, too, comes from a solid television background of hits such as *Men Behaving Badly*.

Now, though, the husband and wife team are having to work with a script. Luckily, it's a very funny one, written by Arthur Smith, who co-wrote *An Evening with Gary Lineker*. Anyone who has ever spent a night in a strange bed will enjoy Smith's sexy, witty *Live Bed Show*, a tussle of love, sheets and emotional ping-pong. Theatre Club members can buy tickets for the show, at the Garrick Theatre in Charing Cross Road, London WC2, for £15 (normally £20) for Monday to Thursday evenings and 6.30pm performance on Fridays. To book, telephone 0171-494 5085



Pyjama games with Caroline Quentin and Paul Merton in Arthur Smith's *Live Bed Show* — see opening listing

EDINBURGH
Festival Theatre
Feb 21
● NATIONAL Youth Music Theatre presents the musical and magical extravaganza *Pendragon*. This thrilling exploration of the darker depths of the Arthurian legend was a hit of the 1994 Edinburgh Festival. *Pendragon* is a triumphant production full of romance, chivalry, adventure . . and giant flying insects. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £10.50 and £12.50). Tel 0131-529 6000

YORK
Theatre Royal
Feb 28-March 3
● WHEN the lovely Elvira returns to haunt her husband Charles, his second marriage does not stand a chance. Poltergeists and very dry martinis create havoc in the classic comedy *Blithe Spirit*, by Noël Coward. Club members can save £3 on stalls and dress circle tickets (normally £7.50 to £11). Tel 01904 623568

LIVERPOOL
Playhouse
Feb 20-21
● JOE MCGANN stars in *One Fine Day* by Dennis Lumborg. The play tells the story of Eddie, a young father living apart from his wife and children. Not content with

This week's special offers

arranged visits, Eddie hatches a plan which will enable him to be a proper father — even if it is just for one day. Tickets £9 (normally £12). Tel 0151-709 8363

NOTTINGHAM
Playhouse
Feb 13-17; 21-24
● A HEADY atmosphere of romantic love and erotic madness pervades *Twelfth Night*, Shakespeare's festive and poetic comedy of mistaken identity. The play is directed by David Poutney, whose work with English National Opera has made him one of the world's leading opera directors. Theatre Club members who buy one full-price ticket will get a second ticket at half-price (normally £9.50 and £11.50). Tel 0602 470882

CHICHESTER
Festival Theatre
Feb 22-25
● ADAPTED from the novel by George Eliot, Shared Experience Theatre's production of *The Mill On the Floss* tells the moving and passionate story of the wild and clever Maggie and her practical and earnest brother, Tom. Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £12.50 to £16.50) for evening performances on Feb 22 and 24, and Feb 23 and 25 matinees. Tel 01243 781312

CARDIFF
New Theatre
Feb 28-29
● HARRIET WALTER and Clare Higgins lead the National Theatre's production of Lillian Hellman's controversial *The Children's Hour*. The play depicts the hysterical and vicious witch-hunt that occurs when a vengeful schoolgirl claims that her two women teachers are lovers. Theatre Club members can buy tickets in the front stalls for £7 (normally £16). Tel 01222 384890

ON TOUR

● ONE woman's view of the top from the lowest rung of the corporate ladder, Lisa Kotin's *Temporary Girl* is a wildly comic journey through the life of an office temp desperate for her big break. See the show in:

LONDON
Cockpit Theatre
Feb 23. Tickets £6 (normally £8.50). Tel 0171-402-5081

BRIGHTON
Komedia
Feb 16. Tickets £5 (normally £7.50). Tel 01273 670030

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TO BOOK for any or all of this week's special offers, please phone the listed number during normal office hours. The price printed on the ticket you receive will be the special price negotiated by the Theatre Club. In some cases there may be a transaction charge to cover postage.
TO JOIN the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to: The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164, Colchester CO1 1GN, or telephone 01206 791737 using your credit card. Please allow 28 days for delivery of your membership pack. For general inquiries call 0171-387 9673

RECORDINGS: Glenn Miller's wartime sessions rediscovered; Marion from Manchester moves up; a double Purcell celebration

In the mood again

JAZZ

Clive Davis

■ **GLENN MILLER**
The Lost Recordings
Happy Days CDHD401/2

If there was ever the right moment for a Glenn Miller revival, this must be it. 50 years after the end of the Second World War; 50 years, too, after Miller's light aircraft disappeared in bad weather over the English Channel. In truth, however, there has never been much need for his music to be rediscovered. The many "ghost" bands that have continued to bear his name here and in America, and the sheer durability of the melodies and the slick arrangements, have seen to that.

As many a music historian has taken pains to point out, Miller's orchestra was not regarded as the best of its time in purely musical terms. Count Basie and Duke Ellington are just two of the bandleaders who could claim priority.

But if Miller has suffered a good deal at the hands of most of the jazz cognoscenti, there is no way of ignoring his achievement in fashioning a gently swinging sound that appealed to the broad swathe of dancers in the ballrooms. At a time of anguish and uncertainty, "In The Mood" and "American Patrol" offered a refuge. Hence the irony of a new set of wartime sessions being issued on a label called Happy Days.

Compilations of greatest hits regularly flow into the high street shops. Determined collectors all have their cache of rarities, many lifted from wartime broadcasts made by the larger and more ambitious unit Miller assembled after enlisting in the armed services in 1942. Yet for all this abundance, the appearance of a collection of Abbey Road performances from late 1944, *Glenn Miller: The Lost Recordings*, is certain to create a stir.

The tracks were originally laid down for the American Broadcasting Station in Europe, a London-based operation which beamed talk and music to the Continent. Miller, who was by this time an Air Force major, appeared in six "*Music for the Wehrmacht*" shows in all, the last made less than three weeks before his death. A mixture of hits and less familiar compositions, the tunes were interspersed with snippets of patriotic conversation with the programme's German hostess, known as "Ilse". None of this was intended for commercial release.

The band also cut four numbers, including two songs with the vocalist Dinah Shore, which were never subsequently issued due to contractual tangles.

The full history of this archive material, laden with all the details of matrix numbers, mislaid master discs and red tape, is about as impenetrable as the fog that engulfed Miller's plane as it took off on its last flight. In his history of the Abbey Road studios, published a decade ago, Brian Southall referred to the mysterious disappearance of the masters, and rumours that they had been spirited away to the United States.

Suffice it to say that a high-quality copy subsequently came to the attention of Alan Dell, the BBC broadcaster and leading light of the Glenn Miller Society. His engineer, Ted Kendall, has made a sympathetic job of the restoration process. Compared with other Miller reissues — for example, some of the American broadcasts made for NBC — the Abbey Road sound quality is full-bodied and resonant. Surface noise, always a problem in the re-mastering process, only rarely impinges.

Widely regarded as Miller's finest achievement, the Allied Expeditionary Force band amounted to a full-scale concert ensemble, equipped with a lush, 20-strong string section. Violins were invariably restricted to stilted accompaniments in the swing era, but on Shore's rendition of *Stardust* they are used with grace and sensitivity. The orchestra's main asset, aside from the seamless orchestrations and immaculate musicianship, was its versatility, embracing the rampant tempo of *Jeep Jockey Jump* and the unabashed sentiment of *Moonlight Serenade*.

This double album also contains assured German versions of such standards as *Long Ago and Far Away* and *Begin The Beguine*. Every little bit helped in the pursuit of Total War: Miller's pounding brass section alone must have been worth an artillery division. As Ilse comments: "*Das klangt typisch amerikanisch* (That sounds typically American)". Yes, indeed.



Glenn Miller, whose gently swinging music provided a refuge at a time of uncertainty — and sounds just as good 50 years later

POP SINGLES

David Sinclair

■ **MARION**
Sleep EP
London LONX 360★★

A PROMISING major-label debut from the band who are being touted as Manchester's answer to Suede. *Sleep* comes cracking in with a fast, choppy riff overlaid by a rather asthmatic harmonica line.

"If you believe your dreams'll come true/Then sleep is all you'll ever do," Jaime Harding sings with a Morrissey-influenced sneer, while the guitars slice through the song with merry hooligan vigour.

Two other tracks, *Father's Day* and *Moving Fast*, boast the same purposeful thrust, a sound reminiscent of the days when Pete Townshend used to write three-minute songs that had the power to explode like acid bombs.

Currently doing a tidy job on tour with Morrissey, Marion look and sound as if they are set for far bigger things soon.



Marion: big future

POP ALBUMS

David Sinclair

■ **BELLY**
King
4AD CAD 5004★★

ONLY the might of Whitney Houston's *Bodyguard* soundtrack prevented Belly's debut album, *Star*, from topping the British chart two years ago. Yet the line-up which recorded that album had not played a single gig together, and at that point the group, led by Tanya Donelly, was still perceived as a mere offshoot of her half-sister Kristin Hersh's band, Throwing Muses.

It's a different story with *King*. A solid year of touring and a million-selling album behind them, and Belly have evolved into a confident, road-hardened unit. Their awesome bass player, Gail Greenwood, who wasn't featured on *Star*, has knocked what used to be a rather fussy rhythm section into much leaner shape. And Donelly has co-written (with Greenwood or Thomas Gorman) a collection of songs with a cool, assured lustre.

Inevitably, though, they have lost the gauche, slightly quirky quality which was part of *Star*'s charm, and any arty intricacies in the song arrangements have been rigorously ironed out, making *King* a much more direct and conventional sounding collection than its predecessor.

Donelly's lyrics are still woven through with strange riddles, and there are moments of relative calm during the ethereal *The Bees* and the dreamy verses of *Red*. But more typical are the galloping rhythms, chiming guitars and catchy choruses of *Puberty*, *Super-Connected* and the single, *Now They'll Sleep*.

BAROQUE

Stephen Pettitt

■ **GARDINER PURCELL COLLECTION**
Soloists, Monteverdi Choir and Orchestra, English Baroque Soloists/Gardiner
Erato 4509-96371-2 (8 discs)★★★

■ **A HENRY PURCELL COMPANION**
Various artists
Harmonia Mundi HMX 2901528.33 (6 discs)★★★

STRANGE: even though the amount of the earlier composer's surviving music is far less than that of the later composer, no record company has done for Purcell in 1995 what Phillips did for Mozart in 1991 and promised a complete edition. This oversight has less to do with the respective merits of each — in different ways the one is as great as the other — than with their relative marketability.

Two companies with perhaps the largest back-catalogues of Purcell, Erato and Harmonia Mundi, are celebrating the tercentenary with boxes of re-releases which succeed in their dual purpose of tempting the novice and indulging the experienced at minimum expense.

If on balance I would prefer to invest in the Harmonia Mundi selection, that is because Erato's box has two limitations. Firstly, it doubles



Gardiner: characterful

up as a record of the development of the conducting and performance practices of John Eliot Gardiner; he is the only conductor in the set, so that we get nobody else's point of view. Secondly, it concentrates only on Purcell's theatre music and secular odes, where Harmonia Mundi's box surveys a wider variety of genres.

For Gardiner aficionados, it is nevertheless fascinating to be reminded of how things were in those days when he eschewed gut strings and bows that curved the wrong way round, and preferred an unashamedly Romantic kind of opulence; days when the Monteverdi Choir was a good deal larger and a good deal less incisive than it is now.

The earliest disc, of the 1694 Ode for Queen Mary's Birthday, *Come ye Sons of Art*, and of music for Queen Mary's funeral, dates from 1977, and shows Gardiner at his most Leppard-like. Two discs originally published in 1980 and both recorded in February 1979 show the revolution at a crucial stage. Music from *The Tempest* still has the Monteverdi Orchestra playing modern instruments, though by this time Gardiner has made concessions to the camp of the historically informed. But for the lovely semi-opera *The Indian Queen*, completed after Purcell's sudden and untimely death by his brother Daniel, his period-style band, the English Baroque Soloists, make their bow; and what light and crispness they bring to this music.

Of course, Gardiner's way with Purcell has since become even more characterful, at once leaner and richer, as his splendid, hugely appealing account of *Hail Bright Cecilia* (first released in 1983), prefaced with the impossibly slight and joyous masque for that most serious of Shakespearean tragedies, *Timon of Athens* (1988), and the fine, complete account of *King Arthur* (1985), all amply testify.

The fact that Harmonia Mundi includes only the Deller Consort's disc of excerpts from *King Arthur* is a minus point, though I find the raw sound of The King's Musick, an original instrument band directed by Roderick Skeaping, appealing. This period piece is complemented by another, Alfred Deller's Purcell recital from 1979, with a continuo team including William Christie at the harpsichord. The sound that affected Tippett when he first heard Deller sing back in the Forties can still haunt.

The remainder of the collection is more recent. Phillipe Herreweghe and the Collegium Vocale released their clean accounts of some of Purcell's better known English anthems in 1993, the same year that John Butt's enterprising disc of organ works, made at the O'Neill Collection of Historic Organs at the University of California, Berkeley, first appeared. This more intimate aspect of Purcell's art is further exemplified in London Baroque's 1990 recital of string works, fulsomely though lithely played, while the set is worthily completed by William Christie's 1986 account with Les Arts Florissants of the one and only true Purcell opera, *Dido and Aeneas*, crowned by a reading of *Dido's Lament* by Guillemette Laurens which oozes all the emotion one could possibly want from any performance in any style.

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ **MAHLER**
Symphony No 9
Philharmonia Orchestra/ Sinopoli
DG 445 817-2★★

Symphony No 9
New York Philharmonic/Masur
Teldec 4509-90882-2★

SO PERSUASIVE and intensely moving was Claudio Abbado's Mahler Nine with the Berlin Philharmonic at last year's Proms (repeated on the radio recently) that any new arrival in the catalogues has a great deal to live up to. Neither of these new discs eclipses Abbado, let alone Bernstein, but it is — and this may surprise some — Sinopoli and the Philharmonia who come closer.

In the opening movement Sinopoli — aided by the marvellous sound created by the DG engineers — is better at catching the wild exultation in the periodic outbursts. However, in the subdued passages in between he unfortunately loses his way, with too protracted a line. Masur (in a live performance on a single disc — Sinopoli's occupies two) keeps his thread better here, but then his accounts of the section marked "*Mit Wut*" ("with rage") passes for nothing, where Sinopoli is ideally impetuous and incandescent.



Masur: lacks intensity

Honours are more even in the belligerent Rondo Burleske, but in the Adagio finale Masur is again left standing. His reading lacks intensity even at the big climaxes; nor is he able to bring out significant detail, such as the strident horn solo at bar 17. Sinopoli is far more impressive here and also succeeds in maintaining the momentum between the high points (his downfall in the first movement).

Apart from his bizarre handling of portamenti later in the movement (slow slides over the whole extent of a bar, sounding like police sirens), Sinopoli's performance can be safely recommended and is deserving of attention. It comes with a perceptive note by Peter Franklin.

OPERETTA

John Higgins

■ **MILLOCKER**
Der Bettelstudent
Streich/Holm/Gedda/Prey/ Unger/Graunke Symphony Orchestra/Allers
EMI 5 65387 2 (2 CDs)★★★

Gasparone
Rothenberger/Prey/Wewel/ Munich Radio Orchestra/ Wallberg
EMI 5 65363 2 (2 CDs)★★

CARL Millöcker began his career as a flautist at Vienna's Josefstadt Theatre. But he soon realised that the quick way out of the obscurity of the orchestra pit was to compose operettas rather than play them. His popularity lasted until the 1930s, when a couple of his pieces were filmed, and there is a soft spot for him still in German-speaking countries. Millöcker filled his scores with marches and waltzes, strike-up-the-band music straight from those early days in the theatre. Vienna's Volksoper has been a notable supporter with *Der Bettelstudent* (*The Beggar Student*) and *Gasparone* in the fairly recent repertoire.

EMI's recordings of these two works both stem from Munich, which may raise a Viennese hackle or two, but the casts are generally good enough to make the rest of us content. Difficult to imagine a better set of male principals than EMI engaged in 1968 for *Der Bettelstudent*, Millöcker's masterpiece, although Ariola ran it quite close when Robert Stolz recorded the work.

Nicolai Gedda is exuberant in the title role of Symon, the student who lends a hand to the Poles in throwing off the Saxon yoke in 18th-century Cracow. The high Cs ring out, and Symon's joy in the last act at being penniless but free as a bird sounds almost credible. No student grants then.

Gerhard Unger is well contrasted in the second tenor part and Hermann Prey gives a richly comic performance as the Saxon governor, Ollendorff, who gets his comeuppance but is also assigned the score's most famous number, "Ach, ich hab'sie". A waltz, of course. Note, too, Karl Bennert as Enterich, a jolly jailer and close cousin of Frosch in *Fledermaus*.

Millöcker did not repeat the success of *The Beggar* in *Gasparone*, which followed a couple of years later. The flimsy plot, about a titled lady wooed and won by a "bandit", has much in common with Auber's once popular *Fra Diavolo*. *Gasparone* was reworked 30 years after Millöcker's death, and that is the version used here. But it has moments, and most of them go to the baritone as the Stranger, suspected of being the bandit Gasparone, who turns out to be a provincial governor in disguise, finding out if any shenanigans are going on at the town hall.

Hermann Prey turns in another sturdy performance. He is excellently supported by Günther Wewel as the mayor and Martin Finke as the tenor support. Anneliese Rothenberger is sorely pressed by the Countess Carlotta. She was in her late fifties when the recording was made and it shows. What a pleasure, though, to hear artists such as Gedda and Prey in this music long before the dread word "crossover" was invented.

CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

■ **BORODIN QUARTET**
Golden Jubilee Box
Teldec 4509-97462-2 (6 CDs)★★★

THIS is not, as may be imagined, a retrospective of the remarkable Russian ensemble, nor even a celebration of the 21 years of its present membership. Instead it is a compilation (with each disc available separately) to mark just two years of the quartet's exclusive contract with Teldec. Since 1993, the riches have included its outstanding Tchaikovsky Quartets (4509-90422-2), its Brahms (90889-2) and its Haydn *Seven Last Words* (one of my 1994 Records of the Year on 92373-2). Now, just in time to top up the box, come the Schubert *String Quintet* (94564-2) and the Brahms String Quartet No 2 with the Piano Quintet (974611-2).

These two latest releases reveal an ensemble whose ever-accumulating wisdom and sharpening insights show no signs of being wearied by age or decayed by custom.

A hundred and one details distinguish its Schubert Quintet (with cellist Misha Milman). The tautness of each successive musical sequence at its start does away with any temptation to over-sweetness in the second lyrical idea: it is set into natural, gentle relief. The sense of a perfect pulse rate for the great slow movement is perhaps nothing more than one would expect: still more wonderful is the anxious tremor within the folksiness of the finale.

Pianist Elizo Virsaladze joins the Borodin Quartet for the Brahms Piano Quintet. In its hands, the work can even recall the Schubert in the minimal movement of bow on string in the slow movement, and the finest of harmonic threads drawn out at the start of the finale. The Quartet No 2 epitomises so much within the Borodin voice: lean yet warm, mellow yet transparent, and moving with a mutually scented, instinctive sense of pace and direction.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
★★★ *Worth buying*

THE TIMES



In harmony: Matthias Bamert conducts the London Mozart Players

Feast of Mozart for 20p

Go to a concert and you can take a friend for the cost of Britain's greatest newspaper. Forty orchestras and ensembles are performing at more than 150 concerts in halls all over Britain where *The Times* offer allows you to buy a second ticket for 20p.

The London Mozart Players, Britain's oldest chamber orchestra, features in our offer. Founded in 1949 by Harry Blech CBE, it took part in the inaugural week of concerts at the Royal Festival Hall in 1951. It has since played in every season on the South Bank and two concerts in their present season are included in *The Times* 20p concert offer.

As its name suggests, the London Mozart Players plans its repertory around the 18th century with particular emphasis on the music of Mozart.

On March 16 Matthias Bamert conducts Mozart's *Piano Concerto No 27 in B flat* and *Six Minuets* as well as Beethoven's *Symphony No 1 in C*. The programme on May 25 includes Mozart's *Symphony No 34 in C* and Witt's *Jena Symphony*.

You can hear both concerts and claim a 20p ticket for each provided you book both concerts at the same time. You can also see the orchestra at the Derngate in Northampton on May 28.

A full list of concerts available in London was printed on Tuesday and a regional listing will be printed next Tuesday.

To book your 20p tickets collect six of the tokens we are publishing during the next two weeks and then choose the concert you wish to attend. When you buy one ticket at the full price you will receive a second for just 20p.



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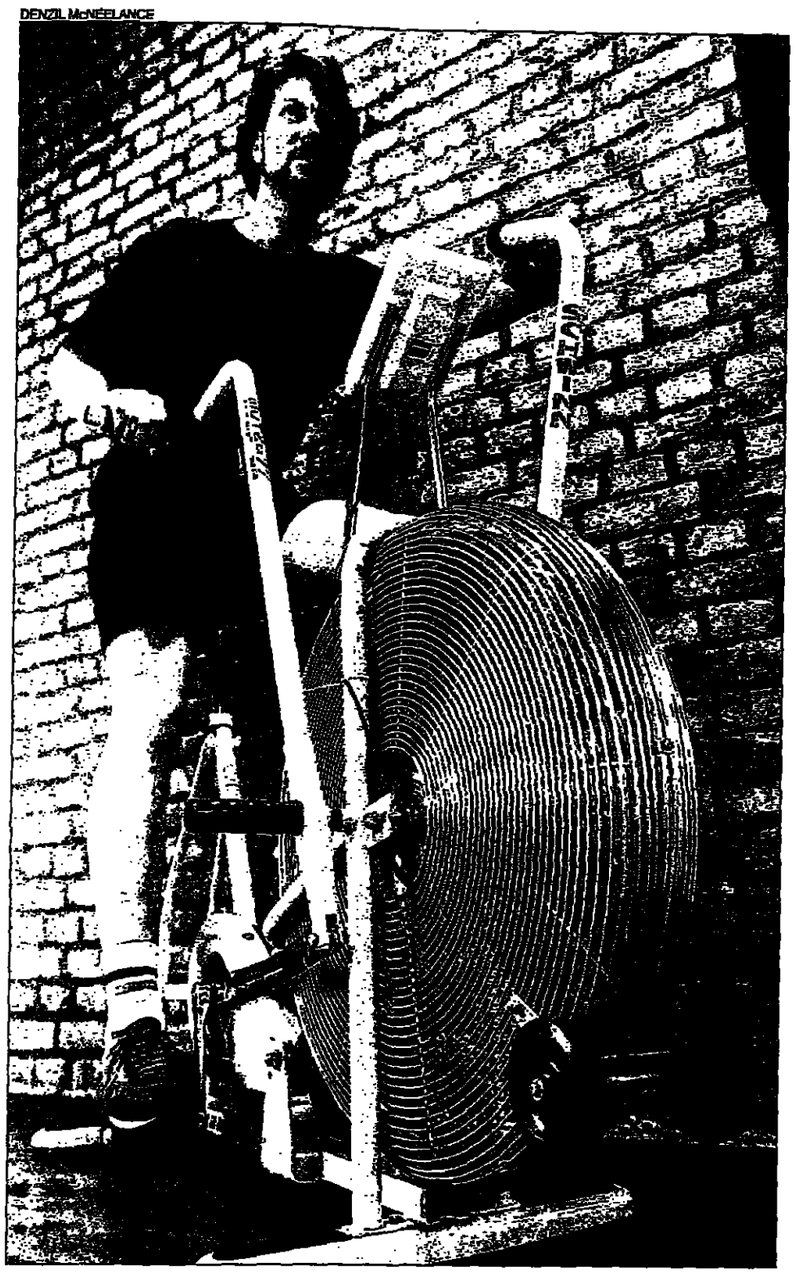
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Switzerland, and Bob Newman, of Chartwell Place, Epsom, Surrey.

SHOPPING

Still trying to shed the pounds piled on at Christmas? **John Goodbody** looks at a selection of fitness machines for use in the home

DENZIL McNEELANCE



SCHWINN AIRDYNE CYCLE (above): Like a static bicycle but with the added demand of using the arms in a forward-and-back motion. Mike: "It gives a general workout. I would use it to warm-up for more severe exercise." Clarissa: "The nicest thing was that the movement of the wheel blew a refreshing breeze into my face." Cost: £816 (inc VAT) from Polaris International Ltd, Unit 10, Parker Centre, Mansfield Road, Derby DE2 4SZ. (01332 381853).

Step out and shape up

The winter party is over. But the results of the excessive eating and drinking over Christmas still sit heavily around the midriff.

At this time of year, as people attempt to shift the surplus, fitness classes, swimming pools and running clubs are at their busiest. Many people, however, prefer to train at home. It is more convenient and it particularly attracts people who have the inclination, but little time, to exercise.

Brian Davies, of Tweedpark Ltd, one of the largest organisations catering for the corporate fitness market, is increasingly receiving requests from people wanting gymnasiums at home. He says: "I believe it is best for someone to use a gymnasium/club where they get benefits from the comradeship and instruction, but also to have equipment at home."

Weights and chest-expanders have long been available — but the growth area in recent years has been in machines for exercising the heart as well as toning selected muscles. Many people try the machines in gymnasiums, and then buy them for their personal use.

Mr Davies says: "I would recommend anyone try a machine for at least 15 or 20 minutes before committing money. On some machines, you should also take instruction to make certain your posture and action are correct.

"People must take care to exercise gently at first, particularly if they have not been training for a while. Stop when you feel you can do a little more. Listen to your own body. Do not push yourself."

If you have not been taking regular exercise you should get clearance from your doctor, and make certain that you do not do too much too soon.

The Times took two guinea-pigs to the Sutton Lane gymnasium in Chiswick, west London, to try out five popular machines, which exercise both the heart and specific muscle groups. Mike Clancy, 32, a trade union official, and Clarissa Farr, 36, a teacher, both exercise regularly. They gave their opinions of the machines, which are standard features in gymnasiums and can be bought for home use.

You could have a demanding workout by using only one machine, although many people prefer a combination of exercises, partly for all-round benefit and partly because they get bored if they do only one specific movement.

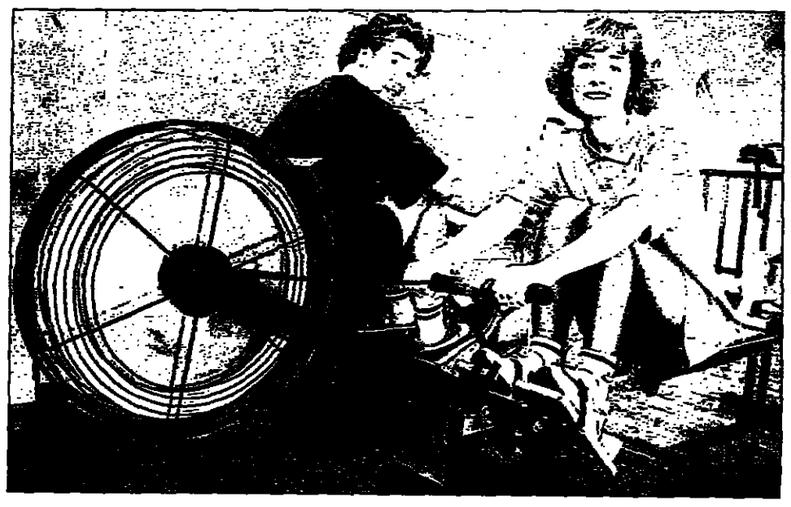
NORDICTRACK 350 (below): This machine simulates the action of cross-country skiing. Mike: "It gives a good general workout." Clarissa: "It is quite enjoyable, and you certainly get tired." Cost: £425 (inc VAT). Order from Nordictrack (freephone: 0800 616674).



LIFESTEP MACHINE 7500 (left): This machine involves a stepping action. Mike: "This exercises the top of the thighs. It is not a muscle group that I usually work and I really noticed it." Clarissa: "My legs got very tired. They got weaker before I had any trouble breathing." Cost: £2,895 (inc VAT). From Life Fitness (UK) Ltd, Queen Adelaide, Ely, Cambridgeshire CB7 4UB (01353 666017).



CONCEPT II (below): This simulates a rowing action and has become very popular among oarsmen. Mike: "I really enjoyed using this machine. The action is easy to grasp and encourages you into the exercise." Clarissa: "It is easy to learn the action and is quite rhythmic and pleasant to use. Your whole body seems to be working." Cost: £799 (inc VAT) from Concept II Ltd, Unit 4, Prince of Wales Court, Church Street, Old Basford, Nottingham, NG6 0FU (0115 942 1925).





POWERJOG G100 (above): Users can either walk or run on this special treadmill machine. Mike: "It protects the body from some of the impact you suffer from running on the roads. I'd use it for short, intense bursts, rather than a long steady run because I would get bored unless I could listen to music at the same time." Clarissa: "You can regulate your pace depending on how fit you are. It is quite a good discipline because if you set yourself a particular pace you have to stick to it." £3,500 (inc VAT) from Sport Engineering Ltd, Stirchley Trading Estate, Hazelwell Rd, Birmingham B30 2PS (0121-459-8383).

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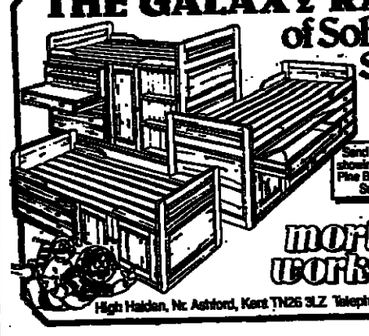
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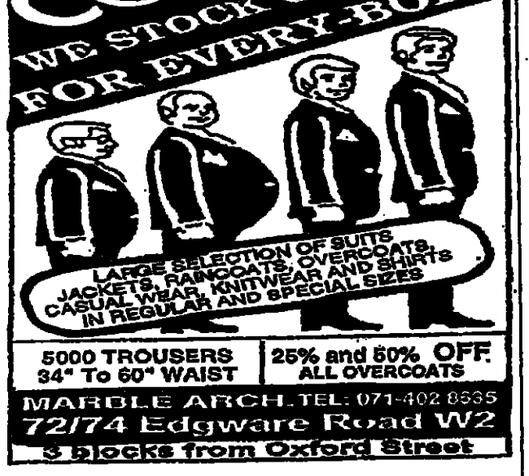
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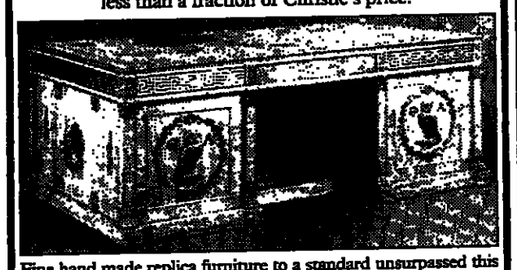
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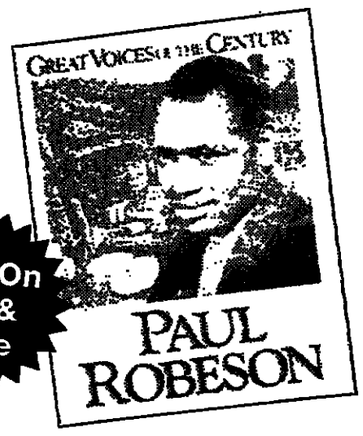




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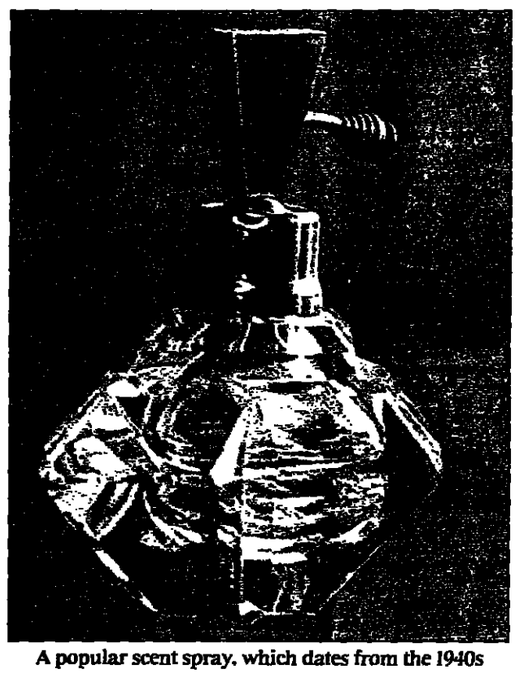
Antique perfume bottles have always been highly prized but, as **Michael Hall** finds, modern mass-produced items are also popular

On the scent of bargains in a bottle





Ruth Warner has spent 18 years building up her collection of scent bottles, counter displays (left), books, old advertisements and antique cabinets



A popular scent spray, which dates from the 1940s



High prices are paid for bottles in their original packaging, such as these 1920s perfumes

As Ruth Warner carefully pulls out the drawers of the cabinets containing her precious collection of scent bottles, faint perfumes steal into the air — the ghosts of the lavender water, eau de cologne or lily-of-the-valley once worn by beauties of the past. "I wish I knew more about the women who owned the bottles," she says. "I often try to imagine whose dressing table they stood on and what sort of life their owners led."

After 18 years of collecting scent bottles, Mrs Warner has lost count of the number she owns, but 43 large drawers have been filled, and there are shelves stacked with prized pieces and recent acquisitions. She collects not only bottles but also anything related to the perfume industry — including books, old advertisements, antique display cabinets and dummy bottles for counter display. She has boxes of 1920s perfumed cigarettes, a 1940s perfumed hairbrush and terracotta perfume bricks for scenting linen cupboards.

Her collection is now internationally renowned and draws visitors from the design and fashion worlds as well as *parfumeurs*, glass manufacturers and historians.

Collecting is a family pastime, and Mrs Warner's husband, Bob, has an important collection of antique radios. A chance purchase in 1977 of an unopened 1920s Yardley scent bottle at a local antiques fair led Mr Warner to suggest that here was a good subject for a new collection. This was astute advice. Antique scent bottles have been popular since the 19th century, but collectors concentrated on the highly prized — and now valuable — porcelain examples made in the 18th century. In contrast, mass-produced glass bottles made from the 1850s onwards are a recent enthusiasm.

The immense variety of this material has its origins in the introduction of artificial ingredients for scents in the mid-19th century. This led to an expansion in the range of brands, all of which had to be given a distinctive personality by their name and packaging. New technology meant that the glass industry was able to respond by mass-producing highly decorative bottles at very little cost. The result is a rich field for collectors, with the added attraction that contemporary material is every bit as inventive and delightful as the antiques.

Although Mrs Warner confesses to a special love of the 1920s and 1930s Art Deco designs that are now highly coveted by collectors, these form just one of many distinct groups in her collection. English material is a speciality and Mrs Warner has impressive displays of early Boots and Yardley bottles. One of her great enthusiasms is Bourjois's famous "Evening in Paris" scent. As well as 1940s examples of the midnight-blue bottles in their original boxes lined with white satin, she has a charming group of boxes made of Bakelite in the 1930s and 1940s in such appropriate evening shapes as owls or dancing slippers. "These are like gold-dust," Mrs Warner says. "You won't find them for less than £50 now."



Each brand has its own distinctive bottle design

Despite the growing number of collectors of 20th-century scent bottles, there are few organised groups. In America there is the International Perfume Bottle Association, but there is no collectors' club in Britain. Mrs Warner relies on contacts with other collectors and those in the perfume industry to add to her collection.

Car boot sales have now replaced back-street junk shops as places to make the best finds, although it's still possible to pick up interesting bottles at collectors' and antique fairs, usually for only a few pounds. However, anybody with some knowledge can still find bargains: Mrs Warner recently paid only 50p at a local market stall for a rare unopened 1920s cologne bottle still with its original miniature corkscrew for removing the cap.

New collectors are most likely to find large dressing-table atomisers. If unusual, decorative and in good condition, these can now fetch up to £300. It is hard to provide precise guidelines about prices in such a varied field, but some of the most highly-sought-after items have reached spectacular prices at auction: one buyer recently paid £43,000 for a Lalique flask, a world record for a scent bottle. Prices in the hundreds of pounds are common for rare bottles from celebrated firms such as Côty, Schiaparelli, Dior or Guerlain, as these are eagerly collected on the Continent — a bottle of "Miss Dior" in its original mirrored box is worth between £800 and £1,200.

Bottles in their original packaging fetch the highest prices, and condition is important. "But *never* wash a perfume bottle," Mrs Warner says. "Even small traces of scent make it more interesting to collectors."

But collectors don't have to concentrate on the chic *parfumeurs*. Mrs Warner has a charming group of pottery bottles produced as tourist souvenirs and is much attracted by the off-beat and unusual, ranging from a rare "Did-dums" bottle in the form of a tiny-tot designed by Mabel Lucie Atwell, to cologne bottles produced for First World War first-aid kits.

Most delightful of all, perhaps, is an unexpected link between her interests and those of her husband — Mrs Warner lifts the top off what appears to be a miniature Bakelite 1930s radio to reveal three tiny scent bottles.

● *The author is the architectural editor of* Country Life.

☐ **Ruth Warner's collection, at Ashford in Kent, may be visited by appointment (call 01233 636185). She will be giving a lecture on the history of scent bottles at the Royal College of Art, Kensington Gore, London SW7, at 1pm on March 30. This is one of the events being mounted in conjunction with the exhibition "Heavenly Scent", organised by the Comité Français du Parfum, at the RCA from March 24 to April 17. It then tours to Glasgow, Brighton, Cardiff, Manchester and Edinburgh. For more information, call 0171-793 0373.**

☐ **Contact the International Perfume Bottle Association at PO Box 187, Galena, Ohio 43021 0187, USA.**

☐ **The best short introductory text is *Scent Bottles* by Alexandra Walker (Shire Publications, 1994). There is a new comprehensive book, *The Art of Perfume: Discovering and Collecting Scent Bottles*, by Christine Mayer Lefkowith (Thames and Hudson, 1994), and two books published by Schiffer in America: Jacqueline Y. Jones North's *Perfume, Cologne and Scent Bottles* (1986) and *Commerical Perfume Bottles* (1987).**

☐ **There are no public collections of 20th-century scent bottles in Britain, but the museum of the glass manufacturer Baccarat at 30b rue de Paradis, Paris 75010 has a comprehensive display of perfume bottles.**



Unopened bottles are highly sought-after

SALEROOM

☐ **The Fine Art and Antiques Fair**, starting on Tuesday at Olympia in London, has a Gallic feel, with a contingent of French dealers offering continental furniture at £500 to £150,000. A pair of 18th century chinoiserie Venetian doors is priced at about £30,000.

☐ Also on Tuesday, **Christie's South Kensington** devotes a sale to fans, the most valuable being one decorated with three vignettes of ladies, dressed and nude, by the turn-of-the-century artist Charles Condor (£1,500 to £2,000).

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

● *Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (0171 581 7611); Olympia Fine Art and Antiques Fair, Earls Court Exhibition Centre, Warwick Road, London SW5 (0171-370 8188).*

THE TIMES

Win a bottle of perfume



WHEN Cacharel, the French perfume house, introduce new fragrances the design of the bottles is given almost the same care and attention as the scent itself.

Today we offer readers the chance to win a bottle of Cacharel perfume, worth up to £20.

Cacharel pour l'Homme is a blend of lavender, nutmeg, sandalwood and cedar and comes in a glass and metal flask.

Anais Anais combines hyacinth, orange blossom, jasmine and rose - plus sandalwood, incense, cedar and iris. The perfume comes in a rounded bottle of white opaline glass, decorated with flowers.

Loulou, named after a silent film character played by Louise Brooks, has vanilla, incense, sandalwood, musk, heliotrope, jasmine, orange blossom, cassia and ylang ylang. Its blue opaline bottle has a bright red stopper.

Eden, created by the perfumier Jean Guichard, combines waterlily, lotus and rush with flowers and fruits plus patchouli in a green opaline bottle with a golden stopper.

We have 100 bottles of Cacharel perfume to be won. To enter the contest, send the answers to the questions below on a postcard with your name and address to: *Times* Perfume Contest, 5 Brittons Court, London EC88 1NG. Please state which of the four perfumes you would prefer to receive. The winners will be chosen at random from all correct entries received by the closing date of February 20, 1995. Usual Times Newspaper competition rules apply.

The questions:

1) Name one of the ways in which perfume makers extract the essential oils from flowers and plants.

2) In which century did the use of perfume become commonplace in Europe?

Parfums cacharel

Catalogue an annual harvest

Order your hardy annual seeds now, says **George Plumptre**, the Times Gardener

Gardeners are forever battling against time and money in their efforts to achieve flowering perfection. Shrubs and perennials take more than a year to grow to their ideal size, and buying them in large quantities is expensive. Hardy annuals grown from seed, however, offer the best way to reap rewards in a single growing season, and some will self-seed from year to year. Because the seeds should be sown in March, it is a good idea to order them now.

I have often visited nurseries in early summer and admired the rows of annual plants in containers, priced at £2 each. By taking action now, you too can have a large number of plants, but for a fraction of the price — a packet of 50 or more annual seeds costs about £2, and many are under £1. Others, such as sweet-peas can work out far more expensive per seed although still far cheaper than buying sweet-peas as seedlings.

Hardy annual seeds should be sown from March into May; for good germination it is important to wait until the soil has lost its winter chill and wetness. A week before planting, prepare the site by forking over the soil. Add a general fertiliser to encourage healthy growth. The ground needs to be firmed (best done gently with your boot) and then raked into a fine tilth. To maximise the flowering period, it is a good idea to sow at intervals of a week or so, rather than all at once.

Sow the seeds into a series of shallow drills, or furrows, which you can make with a stick. Cover and then gently rake over the soil. Instructions on each seed packet will give recommended sowing depths, spacing of drills and suggestions for thinning out seedlings.

Half-hardy annuals are more time-consuming because they need to be sown under glass or into a pot of seed compost at a temperature of 18C to 21C. Once healthy seedlings have appeared they should be thinned and pricked out, by lifting them out of the crowded pot or tray and replanting them in regularly spaced holes in a larger tray or, individually, in pots. Later, about two to three weeks before planting out, they need hardening off in a cold frame or somewhere similar which provides night protection.

Picking seeds from a catalogue is a daunting task. The catalogues from Chiltern Seeds, Thompson & Morgan, and Suttons all boast more than 4,300 different items, so I have recommended plants that I favour because of their colour, size or flowering period.

Phacelia campanularia was a favourite hardy annual of Vita Sackville-West. It regularly adorned border fronts in her garden at Sissinghurst, an ideal position as it does not grow higher than 9in. Its brilliant Gentian-blue bell-shaped flowers produced in dense profusion from June to September make this an excellent plant for a pot as well as a border. Annuals offer an enormous range of blue, invaluable in a border because the colour complements most others. Another low-growing, densely flowered hardy plant is anagallis, of which a number of blue-flowered varieties are available.

Chiltern Seeds recommends *Godetia tenella* 'Blue Magic' as an alternative to the rich pinks, reds and mauves of other godetia. Quite different to the luxuriant flowers of godetia is *Echium vulgare* 'Blue Bedder', whose spikes of blue flowers cover its bushy dome of dark green leaves.

The plethora of brilliant colour and new varieties among annuals disguises the fact that they include some long-established traditional garden plants. *Reseda odorata* was a hardy annual beloved of gardeners from Regency to Edwardian times. Grow it for the deep, evocative scent of its red-tinted green flowers. It flowers into the autumn and the stems are marvellous for cutting and filling a room with rich fragrance. Another long-established but not widely-grown favourite is *Cosmos* 'Purity', whose white flowers are preferable to the bright colours of other cosmos.

While you should always order some annuals with a view to edging a border front, remember that a tall, dome-shaped plant adds substance to the back of a border. For this reason, I would suggest *Cleome spinosa*, also half-hardy, which grows to 3-4ft. Called the spider plant, the rounded domes of fine white, pink and rose, all in flushed shades which change as the buds fully open, are far more attractive than their name suggests.

Equally graceful and tall is *Gaura lindheimeri*, with long spikes of white flowers. Another half-hardy annual, it should be grown where the flowering stems will be caught by a summer breeze.

The problem with annuals is that, once you are absorbed in a catalogue, your order can easily be twice the number you first intended. But one of the joys of growing from seed is the ability to experiment quickly and cheaply. One year's colour disaster can always be removed and avoided next time.

☐ *Chiltern Seeds, Bortree Stile, Ulverston, Cumbria LA12 7PB (01229 581137). Catalogue: 50p in stamps.*

☐ *Suttons Seeds, Hele Road, Torquay, Devon TQ2 7QJ (01803 614455). Catalogue: free.*

☐ *Thompson & Morgan, Poplar Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 3BU. (01473 688821). Catalogue: free.*

MARY EVANS



Hardy annuals grown from seed offer the best way to reap rewards in a single growing season

WEEKEND TIPS

- *Sow under glass the seeds of half-hardy annuals, such as* Cleome spinosa *and* Felicia bergeriana.
- *Take cuttings of fuchsias and pelargoniums, and set them in a well-drained rooting compost.*
- *Prune winter-flowering jasmine as soon as it finishes flowering.*
- *Cover strawberries with a cloche.*
- *Sow salad onions ½in deep in drills 6in apart and plant out shallots at a depth of 4-6in.*

GARDEN ANSWERS



STEPHEN ANDERTON
replies to readers' letters

Q Last November I bought a potted hibiscus. It is doing well and has produced several scarlet trumpet flowers. Could I plant it in my garden this summer? What winter protection would it need? — Ursuline West, Reading, Berkshire.

A Your pot plant is probably *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* and it will not stand frost. Even indoors it should overwinter at about 13C. The hardy hibiscus is *H. syriacus*, which has smaller flowers than *H. rosa-sinensis*, but it grows best where summers are long and hot. The hardy variety, out of flower, is an unprepossessing shrub of 5-7ft, and unless it is going to flower well it is not worth the effort.

I would try *Abutilon vitifolium* instead. It is a fast-growing shrub, which flowers generously from May to July. The flowers are mauve or white, and there is an almost-blue hybrid called *Abutilon x suntense*. The abutilon's reputation for "tenderness" has more to do with its short lifespan (five to seven years — which one expects with the mallow family) than its susceptibility to cold.

But probably the best hardy plant that matches the scarlet trumpet of the indoor hibiscus is the rhododendron.

Q I have a quince tree, *Cydonia oblonga*, which I planted in 1987. It is now large and blossoms each spring, but the fruits never get larger than three-quarters of an inch before they fall. What should I do? — Daphne Bell, Hereford.

A Quince trees are self-fertile, so fertilisation should not be a problem. They also enjoy heat and moisture, so I suspect either your soil is too dry, or that the position is too cold. Try leaving a hose running under the tree to soak it now and then, especially in the weeks after flowering and, if possible, give it some sheltering neighbour trees.

Q We bought a Ghent azalea last year. It was "leggy", with tufts of leaves only at the ends of the 2ft stems, but it was the colour and fragrance we wanted. We hoped it would bush out afterwards, but it has not. Can it be encouraged to do so? — Barry Miller, Erwarton, Ipswich.

A The Ghent azaleas are a group of deciduous rhododendrons first bred between 1830 and 1850. They are known for their wonderful perfume and honeysuckle-like flowers, but they do tend to be on the leggy and twiggy side. Many of them grow to 6-8ft.

If you pinch out the leaders in the next couple of years you will encourage bushiness, and if it is growing fast you might reduce one or two of the present stems by half in spring to force some lower growth. But do not expect to have an especially rounded bush from the Ghents; they will push upwards.

There are some stunning colours among them: 'Coccineum Speciosum' produces outrageous orange-red flowers; 'Gloria Mundi' has orange flowers with a yellow flare; 'Daviesii' is more restrained with white flowers with a yellow flare.

- *Readers wishing to have gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend,* The Times, *1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.* The Times *regrets that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.*

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The runners-up were M.E.E. Harrison, of Frohburgstrasse, Zurich, Switzerland, and Bob Newman, of Chartwell Place, Epsom, Surrey.

Thursday, February 23.

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Restoring an Edwardian terrace house to its former glory is a time and money-consuming process

Dirty weekends with a difference

First he bought the wardrobe, now he has the house to match. The wardrobe is an Arts and Crafts creation with handsome copper strapwork, and it is one of Martin Harrison's prized possessions. The house is an Edwardian terrace building, but many of its original features were destroyed by the previous owners.

"The wardrobe has finally found a good resting place," Mr Harrison said. "I have had it for years but it has never fitted in anywhere I lived before." His wardrobe is made of satinwood by Shapland and Petter of Barnstaple, and has a copper panel with an exploding poppy design — a favourite icon of the Arts and Crafts movement. The same exploding poppy design decorates the grand wooden fireplace in the Harrison's main bedroom — one of the few original features that was still intact when they moved in.

If Mr Harrison, a graphic designer, is at a loss what to do, or wants to contemplate the problems of restoring his house, he polishes a bit more of the copper on his Shapland and Petter wardrobe. This thoughtful activity has been going on for several years and still there is a dull patch at the top that needs finishing. Mr Harrison is a perfectionist and he is working through the whole house in the same way, inch by inch, restoring its Edwardian decor.



The Edwardian terrace house



Newly built chimney stacks

The house had been radically modernised by the previous owners, who tore out chimney breasts in the downstairs rooms without even putting in buttresses to support the chimney above. The roof was in a very poor state and the loft was full of bowls and buckets to catch the rain. The water tank had a decomposed bird in it. The downpipes from the gutters were full of rubble so that water overflowed from them and penetrated the walls. There were live wires in the bathroom and a 1970s corner bath which the Harrisons find uncomfortable whichever way they sit in it.

The house, which is located between Clapham and Wandsworth Commons in south London, had been on the market for two years when the Harrisons bought it. They paid £136,000 for it a year ago — reduced from £149,000. They badly needed more space and they could not afford anything else in the area. Now all their spare cash and much of their energy is going into its restoration. So far they have spent £13,000 and will probably have to spend the same again before they are finished — but if they get it right the house could be worth £180,000 fully restored.

The Harrisons began with a 28-page report from a structural engineer that cost £500. The roof needed urgent work. The Harrisons did not want to spoil the original line of the roof even though they can only see it from one of the bedroom windows. They managed to find old chimney pots and cowls that matched the other houses in the street. They also rebuilt the chimney stacks to the original height — even though one of them will never be used — and used correct period pointing for the brickwork.

"The type of pointing favoured today would be visually wrong for an Edwardian house," Mr Harrison said. "We wanted to do right by the house. I sometimes just look out of the window and admire the roof because I feel so pleased with it."

Mr Harrison scratched away layers of old paintwork to uncover former colour schemes and found that viridian green was the colour used on the hall and stairs in Edwardian times followed in the 1920s or 1930s by muck brown. Under a shabby hallway carpet was the original black and white geometric tiled floor. His research also involved watching what other people throw on to skips and close observation of houses up and down the street. "I have got a lot of ideas about original features that way."

He salvaged an old scullery door from one skip and skirting boards and mouldings from another. The mouldings will find a place in the Harrison's rear kitchen/dining room. However, the kitchen has become a matter of contention between the couple. Mr Harrison wants to find an old cast-iron range to provide authentic Edwardian heating, although the house already has modern central heating installed. "It is under discussion," said Mr Harrison looking across at his wife, who pulled a face. "I am not trying to make the house into a time capsule. Annie tempers my enthusiasm."

Mr Harrison has been inspired by the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings and by Standen, a Victorian house near East Grinstead owned by the National Trust. The decoration of Standen was much influenced by the Arts and Crafts movement — the style of Mr Harrison's treasured wardrobe. But Mrs Harrison has a different approach: "The house is not a museum, although Martin might like it better if it were," she said. "It is a house for people living today. We are going to take that ugly Edwardian fireplace out of the kitchen. Martin is used to getting his own way about everything to do with the house but he won't win this one."

The Harrisons still have a lot to do and a lot to decide. There is an Art Nouveau lavatory — "The Excelsior" — waiting in the cellar for installation upstairs, and they have to decide whether to get an authentic Edwardian rolltop bath or an imitation one. The Harrisons found there is a point at which even the most enthusiastic restorer compromises. For them it was the radiators. They decided to install modern ones rather than look for Edwardian originals which would have to be cleaned inside and out.

OLIVER GILLIE

MARTIN HARRISON







Top: restoration work in the kitchen. Above: Mr Harrison emerges from cleaning air vents in the cellar. Right: reinstating a chimney breast

Fact file: house restoration

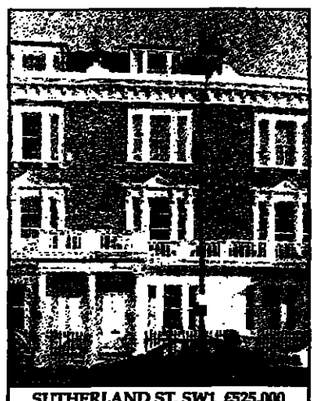
☐ It is important to get a full structural survey of the property.

☐ Consider joining The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, 37 Spital Square, London E1 (0171-377 1644). Annual subscription is £24. The society advises members on all types of buildings, not just listed ones. It produces technical pamphlets, including information on pointing stone and brick walling, and the control of damp.

☐ Brick Development Association, Woodside House, Winkfield, Windsor, Berkshire (0344 885651) publishes information on bricks and suppliers of bricks nationwide.

☐ Architectural salvage yards are a good source of original features. *Salvo News* provides details of architectural salvage throughout Britain. Contact: Salvo, P. O. Box 1295, Bath BA1 3TJ.

☐ Useful reading: *Period Details* by Judith and Martin Miller (Mitchell Beazley, £14.99) and *Collins' Complete Home Restoration Manual* by Albert Jackson and David Day (HarperCollins, £19.99).



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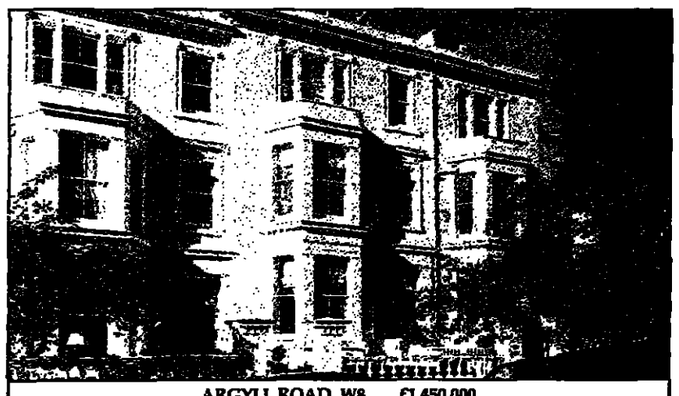
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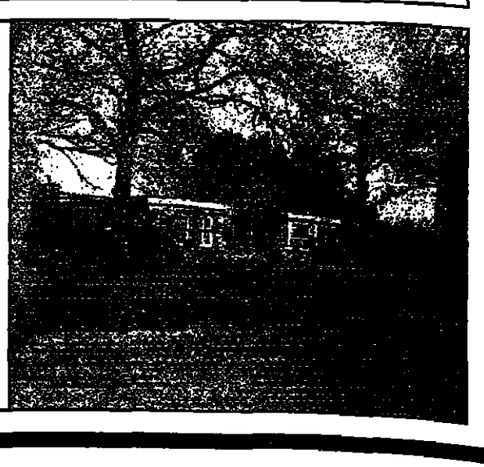
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JSA: Jackson-Stops & Staff 01243 786316
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HEAD OFFICE: 0171-493 4106



BUCKS
Botolph Claydon
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Price Guide: £215,000
OXFORD: 01865 311522



SURREY
Churt
A fascinating house of historical interest with superb gardens, pasture, orchards & meadowland. 4 beds, 2 baths, 42ft recep, dining rm, kit. Detached studio, staff cottage, garaging, tennis court, swimming pool. About 27½ acres.
FARNHAM: 01252 737115

Something to shout about

Giles Gordon on the writers left out in the cold by reviewers

Ibadan: The Penkelemes Years: A Memoir 1946-1965 is a chaotic title for a sizzlingly passionate, arrogant and muddled book. Published not this week but last July, few will have heard of it, let alone read it.

I became interested when one of my favourite publishers, Geoffrey Strachan of Methuen, confided *sotto voce* over lunch the other day that it had been reviewed by only one national daily, *The Guardian*, and only one weekly, *The Spectator*, as well as, thank heavens, in *The Times Higher Education Supplement*. No doubt because of this paucity of coverage, *Ibadan* has sold just over 1,000 copies at hardback. How will the Minerva paperback fare in July?

Perhaps literary editors had difficulties in "assigning" it to reviewers. The first sentence of the author's exceedingly combative foreword reads: "*Ibadan* does not pretend to be anything but faction, that much-abused genre which attempts to fictionalise facts and events, the proportion of fact to fiction being totally at the discretion of the author." The subversive use of *discretion* in a singularly indiscreet book is masterly, the author leading with his pugnacious chin.

He continues: "My adoption of the genre stops short of the actual invention of facts or events, however, or the deliberate distortion of the history or character of any known figure."

What is going on here? Is the book aspiring to literature — that is to say, more fiction than fact — or is it non-fiction, current affairs, polemic and politics?

Although educated in the university of English life (Leeds University under the gentle Bonamy Dobrée; the Krays and Tom Driberg in, of course, an East End pub with Joan Littlewood, that obnoxious bag-lady of theatrical genius in tow; discovering William Blake; reading scripts for the Royal Court) the author of *Ibadan* is Nigerian.

Wole Soyinka is one of the greatest of 20th-century writers, and in 1986 the first black African to win the Nobel Prize for Literature.

The book's foreword continues to be bellicose. Soyinka is writing with invigorating passion and anguish about political events in Nigeria, certainly including endless genocide. To indulge in faction is possibly to save his own life, for he has — whether as political activist or reporter to the world of terrible events in his beloved country — spent years in prison, and later in undesired exile.

I am not suggesting that we all have the inclination to read the detailed (the lavish book is nearly 400 pages) accounts of the minutiae of the civil war in Nigeria. I am saying that *Ibadan* has to be more important than most easier books which are reviewed all over the place. It is important, in my view, because Soyinka is a major world writer.

I remember thinking when seeing some of his plays in the 1960s and 70s — *The Lion and the Jewel: The Road;* Peter Brooks's NT production of Soyinka's translation of *The Bacchae of Euripides*, starring Sir John Gielgud and a gigantic golden phallus of which Coral Browne famously remarked: "No one we know" — that he was the first contemporary writer to dare to use our language with the swashbuckling richness of the Jacobean dramatists.

Less concerned with subtext than surtitles, Soyinka, a big man in every way, is a writer out of tune with our pinched, etiolated times. His prose and response to life and literature have more of the gushing pungency of the mango than the insidious squeeze of the sullen lemon.

The publicity and marketing departments of publishing houses are mostly impossibly overworked and what, ultimately, they can do to boost their imprints' wares is minimal.

Hundreds of different titles are published in the UK each week, and in some weeks thousands. There is no way even the most conscientious literary editor can notice more than a few titles on his or her pages although the general gripe, except from the authors and publishers of the noticed books, is that the same titles are reviewed everywhere. This is largely true because the education, tastes and sensibilities of literary editors at any one time are similar, and market forces dictate that certain books be reviewed and thus others not.

● *Giles Gordon and the Public Lending Right: see below right*

Sugar on the management pill

Stuck in an airport lounge, **Russell Twisk** bones up effortlessly on the stuff of a thousand executive-conference flip charts

BEYOND Jeffrey Archer and Stephen King there's a section at airport bookstalls where business books are bunched together. This is the land of the quick fix, with titles such as *The First Time Manager, Break Out — Life Beyond the Corporation* and *The Immutable Laws of Marketing*. In this crowd Charles Handy brings a little class to the surroundings. His titles flatter the reader, promising an intellectual feel among the feathers as well as ten top tips on how to get on with your boss. In *Gods of Management* he divides the business world into clear domains of four Greek gods. With the help of pictograms he lists their qualities: Zeus represents the clubbable culture, and we are invited to remember him by a spider's web; Apollo is the god of order and rules, a Greek temple is his symbol; Athena is task-orientated and is shown as a net; while Dionysus is of the existential culture, and carries no explanation for his painter's-palette symbol.

I read this book while stuck in the British Airways lounge at JFK. Outside snow ploughs were making pointless patterns through the blizzard, while inside customers were treated with Zeus-like disdain by BA, who told us nothing at all until a bright spark spotted on a screen that all flights had been cancelled.

It seemed the perfect place to study Handy's work. His gift is for finding vivid imagery to make even the most dull-witted of us feel cultured. There's nothing overtly didactic about him; difficult concepts and language have solutions and vocabulary built in. He prompts and reminds you throughout. Those suffering short-term memory loss need have no fear, another reprise will be along in a minute.

This work is destined to be plagiarised on a thousand flip charts. The definitions feel as though they might well be true, so that lightbulbs of recognition will flash up over the heads of executives: "That's me and my situation". There are plenty of case studies and quotes from other management experts; gurus merrily feed on each other's work and generously give credit (I plug you, you plug me!). Dividing the business world into gods is, I guess, as valid as any other arbitrary cake slicing. But it contains the huge contradictions and sweeping generalisations of horoscopes. It could have done with a good pencil editor to cut out pages of repetition.

In *The Age of Unreason*, Handy's text is change and his belief that it is "often the little things in life which change things most and last the longest". He asserts: "In an age of unreason there can be no certainty." After a while you become inured to these vapid aphorisms. Again it suffers from the slack editing that haunts so many business books. Taken together, these two titles resemble the snacks available in the BA lounge at JFK — sugary, pleasant, easy to stomach, but no meat.

■ GODS OF MANAGEMENT and THE AGE OF UNREASON
By Charles Handy
Arrow Business Books, £6.99 each

Drifter dancing to the Texas twist

Lucy Berrington on a fairy tale pretending to be a travel book

THIS is less a conventional travel book, more an unconventional fairy tale, a picture of a hypnotic, mosquito-stabbed summer spent at a beach house on the Gulf of Mexico.

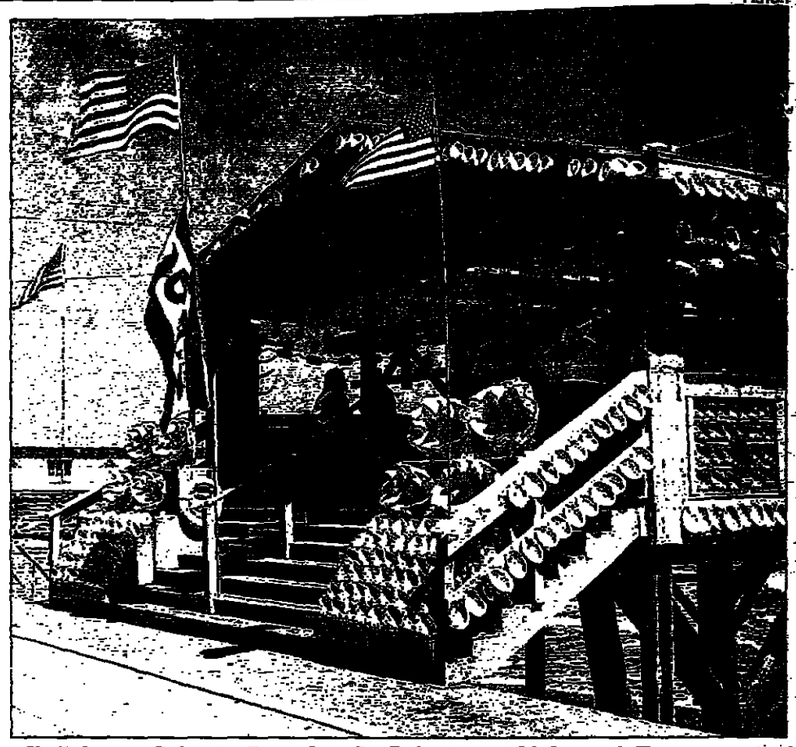
The plot merges history with backwatered present, factual reporting with magic and myth, romance with contemporary squalor. The author's hostess, Mary Alice, a former stripper who started her career dancing for Elvis Presley and ends it in Alcoholics Anonymous, is no more a protagonist than Jean Lafitte, privateer and early Texas settler of the 19th century.

The writing is vivid and rhythmic, a gallery of character vignettes reminiscent of *Short Cuts*, last year's Robert Altman movie. Most strikingly, there is no trace of self-importance about Joe Roberts: the stories are told for their own sake rather than to elevate himself. "A drifter by nature" says the jacket blurb, and his relaxation comes across, but the writer is acutely observant, less concerned with being seen to have a ball than with watching other people jive and twist through dances of their own.

The story of Galveston Bay, the one-time homeland of the Karankawa Indians whose rumoured cannibalism delayed the intrusion of the European colonists, is thoroughly researched. But there are no noticeable borders marking handed-down accounts from personal experience, no obligatory spurts of the academic interrupting the local colour. The account of the tropical tempest of 1900 that killed 6,000 people, and of an ill-received visit by Oscar Wilde, are as convincingly crafted as the tales of buried treasure, shipwreck, piracy and neighbourhood demons. The stories and characters are not stereotyped but delivered with understated humour and canny dialogue.

Roberts, one imagines, could not journey anywhere resenting the people or place. Yet deprived of travel, he would surely continue to write. The book — his second, after *Three-Quarters of a Footprint*, a travelogue of southern India — is styled like a novel; we must hope that a novel will come next.

■ THE HOUSE OF BLUE LIGHTS
By Joe Roberts
Bantam, £14.99



PICTOR

Shell shop on Galveston Bay, where Joe Roberts spent his hypnotic Texan summer

JULIAN HERBERT



Greyhounds doing trials at Wimbledon before auction

Barking up the wrong tree

THE problem facing those people who want to write books about the sport they love is this: how much is there, really, truly, honestly, to say? There are few sports — cricket maybe, chess, boxing — interesting enough to merit whole books about them. Greyhound racing is not among them.

Nick Hornby, to whose *Fever Pitch* this book has been compared, overcame the mundanities of football by writing about the sociology of the game, about himself, and about masculinity. Laura Thompson occasionally trots down the same route, and offers glimpses of how good this book could have been if she had gone further and with greater conviction.

She is slow out of the trap, with an introductory chapter overburdened with statistics amassed to convince the reader of the popularity of greyhound racing. One senses the hand of a sceptical editor or agent here — whoever made the decision was wrong: all this information very nearly prevents you from getting stuck into what Thompson really has to say, which is that dog racing is *interesting*, rather than merely popular, that it is not what it was, and that it has had a bad press.

Her comments on the media in general, and its reporting of dog racing in particular, are some of her most acute. "It smothers and smudges it with irony and familiarity... which take the power away from the creators and put it into the hands of the observers, making them cynical before they have ever been innocent."

That is a spot-on summary of the media's attitude not just to what it considers to be fringe sports, but to pretty much any activity out of the middle-class mainstream. The book could have done with more of that, and less on the specific triumphs of Mick the Miller and Ballyregan Bob.

It could have done with more of Laura Thompson, too. The book is subtitled "A Personal History of Greyhound Racing" but it is not nearly personal enough. The characters — herself, her parents, the dog men she adores — do not come to life. We learn that she was a "dog child" of a dog man, a wealthy one with a Rolls Royce, and that she rejected this life as a teenager only to return to it in her late twenties to write this book. Ample scope there, I would have thought, for comment on class, roots and snobbery.

ROBERT CRAMPTON

■ THE DOGS: A Personal History of Greyhound Racing
By Laura Thompson
Vintage, £6.99

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Devil's disciples

THE Velcro effect is an unfortunate syndrome acquired through reading lengthy novels. Take this example: "I can't explain it, but there's a certain sense of doom connected to being a woman." Bearable in isolation, the phrase becomes truly awful when paired with this reply: "You know, Bea, it's not so easy being a guy either." Kind of sticks in your head. Although *The Witches' Hammer* details the evils of black magic, one cannot help thinking that a spot of corrective voodoo on such dialogue could jolly things along.

Otherwise, Hitchcock's second novel makes for a real gripper. Take one feisty heroine out to avenge her father's murder, add a 15th-century misogynistic manual of black magic (which exists in real life), stir in a sinister brotherhood and sprinkle with a few grisly killings. The witch hunts of medieval times are instantly transported to 20th-century America, with feminists cast as the witches.

Like her heroine Beatrice, Hitchcock is strong on historical knowledge but a bit ropey in the personal relationships department. To call Beatrice's lithe Hispanic lover a "sleek jungle cat" who has awakened the "wolf" in her, is to assume an Olympian will on the part of the reader not to guffaw.

But depite the oddities, Hitchcock has succeeded in weaving a neat and unpredictable web. There is also an intelligent exploration of the darker side of female sexuality. Ignore the glib feminist ideology and take the book for what it is — a riveting appointment with the devil.

ANJANA AHUJA

■ THE WITCHES' HAMMER
By Jane Stanton Hitchcock
Hamish Hamilton, £15.99 (hbk); Penguin, £4.99 (pbk)

Derwent May reviews the critics

5/5 Pleasure ratings are awarded to a maximum of five. Column centimetres indicate the length of reviews to date in national broadsheet papers

4/5 Madness beckons: *In An Anthropologist on Mars* (Picador, £15.99), Oliver Sacks tells the stories of seven brain-damaged people. "It is part of the book's charm to convince us that these people are geniuses of a kind," said Hugh Haughton in *The Independent on Sunday*. "For Sacks it is a person's use of their illness, not its removal, that is paramount," wrote Adam Phillips in *The Sunday Times*. "Brilliantly describes the human spirit as it appears in the most unlikely of people," said Stuart Sutherland in *The Daily Telegraph*, and he recommended the book to arrogant Artificial Intelligence workers "who think their programs are compatible to the human mind". In *The Times*, Nigel Hawkes said that we "wonder here at the variety of human experience". However, there were dissidents. In *The Observer* Andrew Motion regretted that Sacks's "delight in stories overwhelms his curiosity about the emotional component of physical conditions" — and in *The Financial Times* Raymond J. Dolan agreed that there was "very little unmasking of the inner world of the book's subjects".

Col cms: 337

Tuppence lost

EVERY author will agree with Giles Gordon (Books, January 28) that the funding for Public Lending Right should be substantially increased.

His final point is trickier, however. The author must be responsible for registering his own books. PLR's computer can only work with the information provided. It depends on the ISBN with which every new book is issued, but these are sometimes changed between their original listing in the British Library's British National Bibliography and final publication. Some titles never appear and their numbers are re-used. Second editions and reprinted paperbacks are not listed, nor are all cases where two or more contributors are involved. The Registrar and his staff try to help by reminding authors that something they have written may be eligible for PLR, but only the author is certain to know the facts.

I have just missed out on a year's PLR earnings. But I blame myself, not the system.

PHILIP ZIEGLER

● *The author is chairman of the Public Lending Right Advisory Committee*

The Times / Dillons Bestsellers

HARDBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	SOPHIE'S WORLD **Jostein Gaarder** *(Phoenix)*	£16.99	1	2
2	FREE TO TRADE **Michael Ridpath** *(Heinemann)*	£10	0	1
3	THE PRIVATE LIFE OF PLANTS **David Attenborough** *(BBC)*	£17.99	2	3
4	THE CRUSADES **Terry Jones** *(BBC)*	£17.99	5	2
5	WRITING HOME **Alan Bennett** *(Faber)*	£17.50	3	13
6	LONG WALK TO FREEDOM **Nelson Mandela** *(Little Brown)*	£20	4	5
7	INSOMNIA **Stephen King** *(Hodder)*	£15.99	7	8
8	GEOFF HAMILTON'S COTTAGE GARDENS **Geoff Hamilton** *(BBC)*	£18.99	10	2
9	BATTLE FLAG **Bernard Cornwell** *(HarperCollins)*	£9.99	6	3
10	THE ART BOOK: VISUAL DOCUMENTARY *(Phaidon)*	£19.99	0	2

PAPERBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	AN IMAGINATIVE EXPERIENCE **Mary Wesley** *(Black Swan)*	£5.99	1	3
2	INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE **Anne Rice** *(Warner)*	£4.99	6	3
3	MISS SMILLA'S FEELING FOR SNOW **Peter Høeg** *(Flamingo)*	£5.99	11	13
4	OTHER PEOPLE'S MARRIAGES **Rosie Thomas** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	3	3
5	COMPLICITY **Iain Banks** *(Abacus)*	£6.99	19	18
6	DECIDER **Dick Francis** *(Pan)*	£4.99	9	5
7	STARGATE **Sean Devlin** *(Signet)*	£4.99	8	3
8	FLAT STOMACH PLAN **Rosemary Conley** *(Arrow)*	£7.99	2	3
9	THE POWER **Colin Forbes** *(Pan)*	£4.99	13	3
10	BIRDSONG **Sebastian Faulks** *(Vintage)*	£5.99	10	24
11	THE FERMATA **Nicholson Baker** *(Vintage)*	£5.99	18	3
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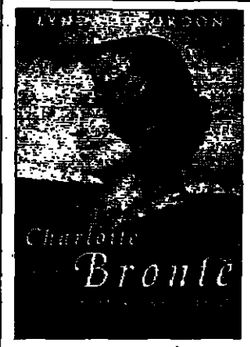


John Updike: seduced by Latin American exoticism

■ BRAZIL
By John Updike
Penguin, £5.99
In this, his sixteenth novel, Updike succumbs to the seductive exoticism of Latin America and the magical realism of its literary traditions. He tells the tale of a love affair between Tristão, a tough black street boy from the shanty towns of Rio, and Isabel, the blonde, blue-eyed daughter of a wealthy politician, who, after a first meeting on Copacabana beach, pledge themselves to each other eternally.

The unlikely couple set off on an allegorical journey which flirts with almost every cliché of lifestyle and landscape offered by the vast and varied land of Brazil. They sample the hedonism of Rio, the industrial squalor of São Paolo and the sanitised monumentalism of Brasilia. They live the feverish lives of gold prospectors, negotiate the perilous rainforests and undergo magical transformation by a shaman, before finally returning to Rio, their inner selves explored.

The narrative sometimes lapses into travelogue, dense with images which reach self-consciously towards authenticity. As the extravagant series of events jerks forwards, narrative continuity seems to be provided mainly by the explicit sexual encounters of the two lovers. Though Updike still shows flashes of his characteristic virtuosity, he should perhaps return to his native North America where his imagination is so at home.

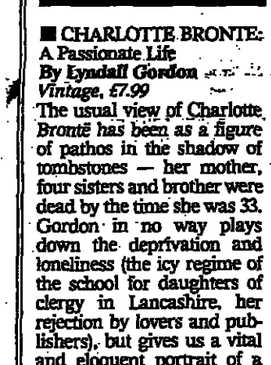


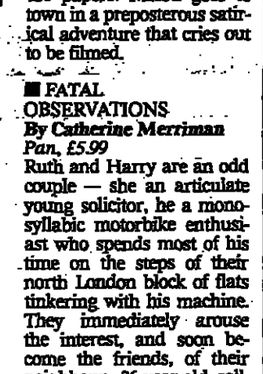
■ CHARLOTTE BRONTE: A Passionate Life
By Lyndall Gordon
Vintage, £7.99
The usual view of Charlotte Brontë has been as a figure of pathos in the shadow of tombstones — her mother, four sisters and brother were dead by the time she was 33. Gordon in no way plays down the deprivation and loneliness (the icy regime of the school for daughters of clergy in Lancashire, her rejection by lovers and publishers), but gives us a vital and eloquent portrait of a 19th-century woman who challenged the ossified mores of the time "through the licence of an alternative fictional world".

■ ADAM'S WISH
By Paul Micou
Black Swan, £5.99
Adam has been a best man six times. Instead of throwing the bridal bouquet, his friends Didi and Norman throw him their star wedding guest — international socialite and budding starlet, the lovely Natalie. In a European caper of Walter Mitty proportions, the love-hungry young London solicitor finds himself escorting Natalie from swanky hotels in Paris to Riviera boutiques to a chaotic film-set on the Italian border. He gets no sleep, and almost no sex, but he certainly gets his name in the papers. Micou goes to town in a preposterous satirical adventure that cries out to be filmed.

■ FATAL OBSERVATIONS
By Catherine Merriman
Pan, £5.99
Ruth and Harry are an odd couple — she an articulate young solicitor, he a monosyllabic motorbike enthusiast who spends most of his time on the steps of their north London block of flats tinkering with his machine. They immediately arouse the interest, and soon become the friends, of their neighbour, 36-year-old college lecturer Jane. Harry's handsome, good-humoured and uncompetitive presence is quite a challenge to the other men in Jane's life. Merriman develops this cosy scenario into a study of male-female relations which starts off sharply funny and ends up very nasty indeed.

■ BLOOD SISTERS: The French Revolution in Women's Memory **By Marilyn Yalom**
Pandora, £12.99
The French Revolution's promise of liberty, equality, fraternity did not apply to women, who had to wait until 1945 for the vote. Thus, politics are of little interest to most of the 80 memoirists in this fascinating, tragic collage of women's experiences. What concerns these writers, whether aristocrat, bourgeois or peasant, are the epic human dramas they witnessed. The royal governess describes being taken prisoner with her charges, a servant girl gives a moving account of Marie-Antoinette's last hours, and a Vendée peasant turns soldier to avenge her slaughtered family.





■ LIVING DANGEROUSLY
By Katie Fforde
Penguin, £4.99
The heroine, Polly Cameron, is 35 and celibate, having eschewed the sexual maelstrom in favour of a haphazard existence in a small Gloucestershire town. But, as is the way with the comforting familiarity of the Aga-saga, the reader is in no doubt that Polly's calm is about to be shattered by a lantern-jawed hero who will turn her life upside down. We are not disappointed: the jaw in question belongs to wine merchant David Locking-Hill. Fforde brings a witty touch of Mills & Boon wish-fulfilment to a tale of our times. Ideal bedtime reading.

■ PENELOPE AND ADELINA
By Virginia Gay
Picador, £5.99
Penelope, a weary management consultant of the 1990s, inherits her great-grandmother's journals of a voyage to Smyrna and Constantinople, made during a more exciting *fin de siècle*. She scours the lines of violet ink for a key to "the mystery of the past". The women share an emotional bond that bridges the time-barrier: Penelope is about to return to her physicist ex-husband, while Adelina, in the novel's highly-wrought Victorian passages, is seeking to shed her husband for a mathematician. Gay's novel contains some acute observation of social minutiae.

● *Contributors: Rachel Campbell-Johnston, Jake Michie, Alison Burns, Hazel Leslie, Nicki Household, Lucy Lethbridge, Giles Coren*

Gonzo meets the President

The political circuit's off-beat jester is falling flat, says **Guy Walters**

■ BETTER THAN SEX
By Hunter S. Thompson
Doubleday, £15.99

"THERE are a lot of ways to practise the art of journalism," writes Hunter S. Thompson, pioneer of "Gonzo" journalism, "and one of them is to use your art like a hammer to destroy the right people — who are almost always your enemies." In *Better Than Sex*, Thompson uses his hammer on Bill Clinton and the 1992 presidential campaign, which he describes as being "the slowest and lamest and least passionate 'struggle for the White House'" he has ever witnessed.

So how does the author of the drug-crazed *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* make sense of it all? *Better Than Sex* veers away from narrative and binds this collection of memoirs, faxes and photographs with a "campaign time line" that lists events that Thompson believed to be crucial in the campaign. The inclusion of moments such as Ross Perot's withdrawal seems pertinent, but the fact that on September 7 the "baboon-liver recipient dies" does not. But then this is the essence of Thompson's style — he will fix almost psychotically on the trivial to reveal the big picture, or at least his view of it.

This is captured in his encounter with the gubernatorial Clinton. Thompson describes how he, P. J. O'Rourke and two other members of the *Rolling Stone* editorial board assemble in an Arkansas diner, where they share a drink with Little Rock's most celebrated.

Thompson gives Clinton a saxophone reed, which Clinton drops on the table "like it was another half-eaten potato scrap . . . 'No more music,' he said firmly. 'Let's have some food, I'm *hungry*.'" Clinton's dismissive behaviour makes Thompson feel paranoid. But "when the going gets weird, the weird turn pro", as the Gonzo motto reveals in the frontpapers, and Thompson is at his most vituperative and bitchy when he feels threatened.

In his correspondence with those such as George Stephanopoulos, Thompson comes over as a tragic figure, like an unironic Henry Root, pestering those in power with irrelevancies and absurdities. Thompson is clearly having to live up to his role as the political circuit's off-beat jester, and the joke is perhaps wearing a little thin. He claims that he is a political junkie, but this is one addiction that he should give up. Nevertheless, *Better Than Sex* nearly lives up to its title.



Hunter S. Thompson

Round up the usual characters

■ OLD MONEY
By Elizabeth Palmer
Century, £16.99 hbk, £5.99 pbk

OLD Money is the first novel I have read this year which claims to be "in the tradition of Joanna Trollope and Mary Wesley", but it is unlikely to be the last.

Bookshop dump-bins that once showcased the works of the Misses Collins, Krantz and Conran in eye-stinging displays of hot pink now promote less voluptuous volumes in Trollope and Wesley-inspired jackets with the domesticated gloss of hard-boiled eggs, in which an inoffensive illustration is centred. *Old Money* has just such a jacket.

Imitation is a dodgy form of flattery. Although both Trollope and Wesley are concerned with surfaces — what people look like, what they eat and wear — and other superficialities that brand them as easy reading, they spend a considerable time fishing for truths and reeling them in. Their many imitators concentrate exclusively on the surfaces, which produces an altogether flatter kind of book.

The storyline of *Old Money* seethes with possibilities: two handsome young men on the prowl for rich wives; a manipulative crone queening it over her miserable middle-aged daughters in a crumbling pile in Northumberland; a quietly beautiful heroine, Caroline Barstow, trapped in a sour marriage to an unsuccessful and egotistical actor. Also in the cast are some familiar characters from the Aga-saga repertory company.

The novel starts in a mood of icy drama with the death of Chloe Post, the heiress whom the hero, Morgan Steer, has unlovingly wedded, and ends with a revelation that jolts him out of his sorrowing passion for Caroline. There are some brisk and witty sexual episodes: "Later on, but not much later on, feet in the air as Morgan drove into her, and watching her lacquered toenails as he did so, Chloe was ambushed by her first and, as it was to turn out, last orgasm", and some pithy comment on the bubble-bright world of Chloe's nasty mother.

But for much of the time the narrative spells out what we should be able to guess from the characters' actions and conversations.

PENNY PERRICK

Nightmare on escort street

Peter Millar enjoys some horrid thrills in a masterful chiller

■ RED, RED ROBIN
By Stephen Gallagher
Bantam, £9.99

THE WORST nightmares start out quietly: a hiccup in the flow of everyday life that suddenly reveals a yawning chasm on the road ahead. There is nothing more frightening than the realisation of how fragile ordinary lives can be in the face of an onslaught of murderous chaos.

When Ruth Lasseter, an attractive, youthfully middle-aged, professional woman having an affair with her boss finds herself in need of cover against his wife's suspicions at the annual dinner dance, she goes to an escort agency. But faced with the facts of life — in the lined faces of those available gentlemen of compatible age — the temptation to pluck out the Beau Brummel young enough to be her son is irresistible. What she has not bargained for is that HE might find HER irresistible.



Stephen Gallagher: on a US excursion

That is the *mise en scène* for Stephen Gallagher's obliquely-titled new chiller, *Red, Red Robin*. As ever, Gallagher's prose is fluid and he has the keen ear for natural dialogue one might expect from a successful television script-writer (*Dr Who* and *Chimera*). But over the course of his past few books he has been perfecting an almost visceral sense of horror, at its most gut-wrenching in this book in the description of a woman left to rot alive amid other bodies in a sealed septic tank.

I quote: "And then, buried alive and unaware that she was slowly being eaten by gangrene, Theresa continued to map out the limits of her grave." BRRRR.

Given that his work until now has had a very definite English sense of place — his excellent last book *Nightmare, With Angel* was set around Morecambe Bay — the translation of this story to Pennsylvania and Louisiana is unexpected. But then perhaps, Dennis Nilsen notwithstanding, the serial killer is a particularly American institution.

At the risk of seeming obsessed, however, with the brain drain seduction of British writers by the American market, I cannot refrain from protesting at a good Lancastrian rigidly conforming to such transatlantic-speak and political correctness as "muffler", "row houses" and "Native Americans".

These jar, particularly when injected into the thought processes of an Englishwoman, even if she has lived in Pennsylvania for so long that she can no longer consider anywhere else home. I hope Mr Gallagher's fiction is just on an excursion, and will return to these shores presently.

That said, *Red, Red Robin* is a classic of the suspense genre, an obsessive read with a genuinely sinister central character to rival *Psycho*'s Norman Bates, and enough surprises to keep you turning the pages as fast as your stomach will let you.



Hailed by the German film industry as the new Dietrich, Zarah Leander (here in the 1937 film, *La Habanera*) first had to win over Goebbels. From *Tainted Goddesses: Female Film Stars of the Third Reich*, by Cinzia Romani (Spellmount, £12.95)

Slime and the Kennedys

■ AMERICAN TABLOID
By James Ellroy
Century, £15.99

AMERICAN Tabloid is a junk portrait of the Kennedy years from the point of view of mobsters, sleazebags, dopeheads, hitmen, procurers, fraudsters, psychopaths, whores and political scum. It is brilliant and appalling.

Admirers of Ellroy's savagely gripping crime novels know he does not believe in the understatement of language, actions or emotions; nor that anyone behaves for other than the basest of motives. What is shocking about *American Tabloid* is that his principles are applied to the real-life players of the Kennedy era.

Ellroy taints them all with his patina of crudity and cynicism. That does not matter too much with the likes of Howard Hughes, J. Edgar Hoover, Teamster boss Jimmy Hoffa and Jack Ruby, killer of Lee Harvey Oswald. It is unsettling, though, when Jack and Bobby Kennedy are given the same treatment.

The Kennedy brothers may not have been the pleasantest people in America — indeed, we know they weren't — but even their critics would, I hope, wince at the way they emerge from the Ellroy mangle: thoroughly despicable, foul-mouthed, sex-driven, dirty-dealing, power-obsessed amoral opportunists without a kind thought between them. It is deeply repelling portraiture, yet mesmerising.

The story, such as it is, is one of continuous political and criminal conspiracy, as seen by a few fictional characters, who include a killer in the pay of Hughes and Hoffa and a Hoover-financed infiltrator within the Kennedy family. They weave in and out of historical reality — the Bay of Pigs disaster is prominent — spreading slime all around.

Ellroy writes in short explosive sentences. Dialogue is lacerating, to the point and uncouth. Almost everyone is actively nasty. An atmosphere of corruption permeates. I hope, for America's sake, that there is little truth in his tawdry tales. They are unsettling enough as fiction.

MARCEL BERLINS

Stephen Bayley is mesmerised by the latest American lifestyle concept: how to live simply, and shave your legs

Self-help for the terminally hip

ONE OF the great frustrations of contemporary existence is that it is exceedingly complicated to acquire a simple life, and unreasonably expensive to maintain it. Any fool can surround himself with difficult schedules, mountains of ugly clutter and useless junk; but if you want to live in an environment of Cistercian purity, or simply wish to curl your toes in clean white sand, huge financial and practical resources are required.

Jeff Stone, a former vice-president of Vintage Books and of Alfred A. Knopf, and his business partner, Kim Johnson Gross, a former Eileen Ford model who rose, or maybe sank, to fashion editor of *Esquire*, know the problem. They are marshalling great steaming lumps of computing power to whizz their ascetic selves up the outside lane of the superhighway in the direction of what they believe will be the next-new-thing, the publishing-marketing elixir which will translate them from being slaves of complexity to masters of The Simple Life. Hence the invention of the *Chic Simple* series.

Chic Simple is not an idea to be patiently developed. It is a "concept" ready to be rolled out. Already, Stone and Gross are threatening to move into own-brand merchandising and own-brand stores.

Simple chic (which is, after all, what we are meant to be talking about) could be described as the current reaction to the vulgar commodity fetishism and style worship of the 1980s, but in fact it is just a dialect version of the same language. Successful self-help has always been the surefire, dead-cert way to dominate American bestseller lists. There is an unmistakable aroma of microchip-driven Elbert Hubbard here, but there is something else besides: the ghost of the idea that this book is not so very different from those humiliating style guides and magazine features which ten years ago told you where to buy an Alvar Aalto vase.

The *Chic Simple* concept is to provide clear, thoughtful, no-nonsense guides to the practicalities of life, as viewed from a Manhattan loft. For those of us who have always regarded disposal of surplus as more aesthetically exhilarating than its collection, this is a concept that cannot possibly be rolled out too soon, but we are dubious about Stone's and Gross's credentials for doing it. Like Minimalist architecture which actually contains level after level of complex semantic nuance (and is, to boot, often structurally deceitful and functionally dodgy), the ratings-driven drive for simplicity is not so much self-defeating as utterly nugatory.



So pure, so desirable: chic-simple tools

For so elegant an idea, it is surprising how the books grate. The authors' devotion to simplicity does not, alas, extend to clarity of graphics, discipline of typography, and purity of thought. Speaking personally, I cannot wait until I am next in San Diego, where, an appendix tells me, the Beauty Kliniek Aromatherapy Day Spa (tel 0101 800 826 1392) does a mean manicure. Otherwise, stay-at-home morons will find the advice given about shaving their hairy legs of consummate practical benefit. In summary, we are told:

wet leg
use soap
use razor (sharp better)
use moisturiser.

Truth be told, *Chic Simple: Body* is a mesmerisingly awful combination of embarrassing how-to ("Nose hairs on men and women often grow longer with age"), wacky New Ageism ("Quirky bodies and older faces are assuming their rightful places among the beautiful"), cringe-inducing pseudo-intellectualism ("from Cyrano to Jimmy Durante . . .") and politically-corrected sexism. One condition not mentioned in this workshop manual on the body is Terminal Hip, endemic among Stone and Gross and their (acknowledged) cast of 73 collaborators.

The smaller format *Chic Simple* books are much less ridiculous, although still full of mumbo-jumbo. Thus a desk "is not a desk but the symbol of an intimate, one-on-one relationship in a small space". The infuriating pretentiousness remains but, being more compact, they somehow offend less.

In fact, the little volume on tools was so successful that, far from inspiring imitation of the series' aboriginal rubric "the more you know, the less you need", they set off in me an unassuageable itch to acquire and consume. I must finish now because my simple life will not be complete until I get a new tack hammer, strap wrench, socket set and 50m of Teflon tape. The *Chic Simple* version of simplicity is cupidity in a plain dress.

■ CHIC SIMPLE: BODY
By Kim Johnson Gross & Jeff Stone
Thames & Hudson, £14.95
Also available:
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ANGLICAN, 49, widow, ordained minister and psychotherapist, painter and pianist, interested in spirituality, creativity, poetry, light and silence: seeks prof/academic, London. Please Reply to Box No 3644

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ATTRACTIVE & fun, well-educated, tall, slim, blue-eyed blonde (30) seeks tall, dark, handsome, successful & intelligent Knight to rescue her and share in the full varieties of good living in a long term partnership. Must have a fun-loving, caring, honest, outgoing personality with GSOH/wit. N/S and a zest for life (32-42). Photo please. Box No 3642

ATTRACTIVE, affectionate, warm-hearted, Sussex based woman, 5'9", slim, 40's, n/s. Enjoys walks, theatre, books, art and music, good food, wine and sunshine holidays. Seeks similar male to share all that life has to offer.Reply Box No 3403

ATTRACTIVE romantic stylish solvent professional lady (55) WLTM kind cultured gentleman to share some of lifes adventures. Lives 30 minutes drive from London. Please Reply to Box No 3594.

ATTRACTIVE dark-haired lady wishes to be smitten by gentleman aged 37+, so what are you waiting for smile now! Photo ensures reply. London/Kent. Reply to Box No 3521

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ATTRACTIVE Latin lady separated seeks active passionate n/s professional 53-63, 5'10"+. Gentleman for lasting passionate relationship. Sincere replies only. Kent/S.E. area. Please Reply to Box No 3622

ATTRACTIVE Lady, slim, 45 5'4" n/s. Tyne & Wear. WLTM charming professional gentleman.Box No 3415

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BE My Valentine. Lady Graduate, 50, seeks single man, 26-36, n/s, 5'10" plus to be my Valentine every day of the year. Send heart + card + photo. South East.Box No 3421

BLACK Lady, mother, 39, 5ft 7ins, size 14, average looks, very loving. WLTM wealthy generous gentleman for relationship. Holidays, weekends away no problem. Nationality unimportant.Box No 3418

BLONDE beauty, sophisticated, 39, wants handsome man with own business, photo imperative. Reply to Box No 3410

BONJOUR bonheur! Bright, breezy, brunette (40's) into Bach, Brahms, Britten, books, beaches, boats, blackbirds & Beaujolais. Seeks bel homme for bonhomie and bliss! Derbys, Cheshire area. Photo Please Reply to Box No 3485

BRIGHT woman 38, unattached mum of 2 super kids, successful professional, tall, slim - varied interests esp. boats & music seeks passionate, confident & responsible man. Ear plugs and lucozade provided, but, must bring own enthusiasm! Prev. applicants need not apply! C.V. & photo - a.l.a. - Box No 3536

CAN you reel? Enthusiastic man (35-45) sought to join party, highland ball, London, 3 March.Reply to Box No 3476

CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP, stylish happy lady 44 loves racing, travel, home life & lots more WLTM similar gent. Photo app. Reply Box No 3243.

CHESHIRE widow mid 50's attractive well travelled fun loving seeks friendship and possibly long-term relationship with a considerate country-loving man. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 3598

CHINESE professional divorced lady (42) wishes to meet similar independent professional man 42-56. London/S.E. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 3439

DELICIOUSLY alive, tallish, slimmish, sometimes elegant, apparently attractive 40's lady seeks very special partner. This relationship requires warmth, wisdom, laughter, sincerity and some worldly success. Do write, with phone no for a chat. Please Reply to Box No 3487

DOCTOR'S widow, 62, solvent, widely ed, personable, missing warmth & companionship of similar professional gent 60-70 Churchgoer GSOH Wales /Midlands. Reply to Box No 3463

DO you like travelling, music, theatre, bridge or being at home & enjoying yourself? If so, why don't we meet? I am lively, full of fun, 5'8", slim, newly retired & available! London /Southwest. Reply to Box No 3516

EXTREMELY attractive slim professional female warm, witty & good company. Seeks intelligent successful Jewish man 56+, who enjoys music, theatre, travel and togetherness. Please Reply to Box No 3562

GRADUATE 31 artistic slim/ attractive. Seeks intelligent creative male N/S, 27-38 5'10" plus. Berks/Hampshire/ Surrey. Box No 3547

I am 58, a teacher, retiring next year, divorced, no children, healthy, slim, looking younger. Would like to meet Englishman willing to live in Athens. Will visit London in April. Please reply to P.O. Box 52874, Athens, 14600 Greece.

JULIET, 41, warm and witty seeks attractive 40-ish Romeo with VGSOH for fun & friendship. S.London/Surrey area. Reply with photo Box No 3677

KATHARINE ALLEN. "The highly respected marriage bureaux" (The Independent). 18 Thayer St. London W1M 5LD. Tel: 071-935 3115

KENT attractive, tall, slim, feminine lady mid 40's seeks cultured gentleman for romance. Photo app Box No 3536

LADY actually Girl-woman! Tall, striking looking, can be elegant, 40's, divorced, n/s, unpretentious, caring, truthful, loves countryside, animals, good food & the finer things in life. Seeks decent male with some sparkle to share future. Based Dorset/Som/Devon borders Please Reply to Box No 3595

LANCS. Lovely lady longing to meet church/theatre/concert going charming chap 48+ for walks, talks and much, much more. Letter and photo? Please Reply to Box No 3491

2 left feet? No sense of rhythm or humour? Thinks salsa is a type of Mexican dip - then don't read on. Wanted: 2 tall, attractive prof straight males 25+ to partner 2 fun-loving attractive prof females at living & salsa classes + some fun. Photo app London.Reply Box No 3618

LONDON/Surrey. One very special lady caring, intelligent, tactile, elegant, 5'8" with a strong personality. Town /country lifestyle, (high heels preferred) from the Ritz to a walk beside the river. Seeks considerate, single gentleman 48-60 with an excellent C.V. and an appreciation of foreign travel, theatre, music etc. with whom to share the future. Tel no and photo to Box No 3218

LOVER OF LIFE - Loves town, countryside, culture, animals, travel - is an attractive woman who would love the company of an unattached professional man age 45/55 to share her loves. London/Home Counties & West. Photo please. Box No 3564

MARIO Rozina is seeking Mario, who has 2 restaurants in London, 1 in Italy & 1 in France Been waiting 2000 years! Box No 3600

MEET attractive, sexy women at London singles' parties. MEET 'N' EAT 071 629 8534

N.LONDON. Feminine 42yr old (smoker) conventional on the surface, deep within seeks tall, sincere, fun loving man with much heart, for weekend jaunts, romance & to share the mysteries of life with. Please Reply to Box No 3638

2 Northern truffles (26 & 39) WLTM 2 bottles of vintage champagne to add sparkle & luxury. ALA.Box No 3513

PETITE and bewitching Midlands based Art historian with sparkling eyes and sparkling sense of humour seeks attractive 50-60 year old man, extremely bright, solvent and available, with a fondness for pheasant pie, fine wine, fine music, and tramping round foreign sites. Please send revealing letter and not necessarily revealing photo to box no 3370

PETITE lady seeks tall dark cosmopolitan, successful gent 38-58.Min. 5'10". Who enjoys dining out, classical music, travelling, for caring sincere relationship to last forever! Photo. London /South Box No 3563

PLAIN, ordinary, older lady, smoker, seeks handsome, brilliant, older, caucasian, male barrister, mainly to dine out with.Please Reply Box No 3645

RATHER lovely lady doctor, 53, divorced - longs to share life with a kind, gentle, sensitive, intelligent, slim guy. Photo would be nice! Avon /anywhere. Reply to Box No 3574

1950's beauty contestant resembles Joan Collins U.S. theatrical background, ex-pat, returned to roots, casting leading man for 3rd act. London.Box No 3634

SINCERELY YOURS Attractive elegant blonde 30's, seeks the finer things in life - wishes to meet tall elegant solvent elite professional businessman 50's-60's on casual basis for theatre wining and dining and of course lots more! London/S.East. Tel no. appreciated Box No 3364

SINCERE attractive, romantic, eclectic lady with a desire to create a family. Seeks kind professional gent n/s 35-50, who like me has a zest for life. Should have integrity, GSOH, and an interest in the arts, travel. Please Reply with Photograph to Box No 3632

SOPHISTICATED, prof. well-travelled, n/s, funny & warm-hearted. Happy in little black dress or wellies! A horse/dog lover.This leggy blonde, early 40's, has no time to find that special, humorous, intelligent, successful, honest man, do you exist? Central /west London or the shires. Photo a bonus. Please Reply to Box No 3414

SURREY. Glamorous blonde young 50's cultured warm & loving WLTM adventurous gentleman with character & charm. Photo app.Box No 3382

STABLE Bright Male TV Producer/ Writer/ Type thing required. Photo (of self) would help. To meet another in the business. I'm female/ attractive/ bright/ funny at times/all that. Age dicey but lets go for 32-47 and a half in general Box No 3400

THE KNIGHT OF PASSION, London /home counties Box 3371
To all the ladies who replied before 7th Feb please try again as letters have gone astray.

ULSTER prof woman, widowed, good-natured, outgoing, enjoys town, country and travel, seeks similar unattached man 60's for friendship, holidays, poss. commitment. Please Reply to Box No 3592

UNEXPECTEDLY back on the market. Attractive, cuddly, uncomplicated blonde, minimal rust, seeks tall, 35+, humorous owner. Country garage essential. Photo and phone no app.Reply to Box No 3401

V.attractive, loving, lawyer/ mother, 37, seeks strong, reliable successful generous, aware protector/playmate.Box 3489

VINTAGE Veuve 1937 full-bodies seeks very caring generous connoisseur to release sparkle must be concert, opera goer. Please Reply to Box No 3629

VIVACIOUS, professional female, 40, loves food, wine, tennis and life. Seeks tall, charismatic genuinely kind, solvent, amusing man, preferably under 60. Box No 3277

VIVACIOUS, charismatic, energetic widow, mid sixties, wishes to meet intelligent, tall, professional, well spoken, well balanced man, Midlands To share lifes adventures. Box No 3649

VIVACIOUS attractive woman (35) WLTM intelligent successful men to vie for her hand and heart. Cambridge. Please Reply to Box No 3628

VIVACIOUS gd. looking blonde mid 30's missing someone to care for seeks prof man. London. Box No 3572

WARM Irish attractive prof woman Kent based finds herself unattached and missing an affectionate and loving relationship. Responsibilities + being out of touch with the dating game lead to exploring avenues she's never thought relevant i.e. this! She is 40+, educated, own business and a nice home, sociable, communicative, wide interests and enjoys the good things in life. Seeks complementary male. If this strikes a chord please send a letter and photo in the knowledge that she feels equally hesitant. Box No 3515

24y Kenyan g. Stays Norway L. travel 1.64 m 50k. Inter. 24-35y. Common life. Answ. Romeo & Juliette. Please Reply to Box No 3610

ZSA ZSA GABOR speak & lookalike is searching for (over 55) Mr. Cabori Please Reply to Box No 3368

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

PERSONAL *Touch* 0171 915 0115/0117
Are you a single professional person living in London and the Home Counties area?
Are you finding that although you do meet a wide variety of people none of them are right for you?
For a agency that is as unique as you are, call us in confidence
MEMBER ABIA KENSINGTON W8

GENTLEMEN

A Caring, good natured, single man, 31, city professional and Scottish graduate, seeks lady, N/S, for friendship or romance Box No 3237

AFRIC. girl, with humour? 47 y M fr. Norway w. car, good job, house, crazy for you. Answ. to: Romeo & Julietta. Please Reply to Box No 3612

A handsome gallant Knight (34) searching for a beautiful young damsel. Let me win your heart for a fairytale ending - no dragons please! Photo ensures reply and a tour of London castle! Reply to Box No 3456

ARE you an attractive female 28-40 looking for a loving trusting unattached solvent soulmate? If so, this S.E. based professional business man aged 43 n/s fit slim dark-haired GSOH would like to hear from you. Wide range of interests. All replies acknowledged. Go on be bold and reply or how else are we going to meet. Box No 3618

ARE you tall dark compl. lady interested in art, travel, non fiction, walks? Similar busnm. 50 would like your occasional friendship.Box No 3412

ARTISTIC male, 46, loves books, classical music,kind, courteous, positive, seeks lady partner. N. London.Reply to Box No 3445

ASIAN gentleman 41yrs old tall dark and handsome WLTM a lady who is interested in all the good things in life to enjoy it even more. Midlands based. Please Reply to Box No 3631

ATTRACTIVE hardworking Businessman, 49 years young, educated, travelled, sensuous, loyal, a n/s, many interests including swimming, walking, dancing, cinema, dining out and cosy meals/evenings in, holidays in the sun, with lots of TLC to give the right petite/slim lady 35-50 years. Based 1 hour from London, but have car will travel anywhere in UK. Photo appreciated.Box No 3413

A 49yr old male WLTM a warm, tactile, passionate, attractive lady who wants to give and receive lots of T.L.C. All replies with a photograph will be answered - honest! Box 3428

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

GENTLEMEN

EDINBURGH Businessman 42 Enjoys theatre, weekends away animals, skiing. Wishes a sensuous wicked lady for life expectancy Box No 3620

CASCADE

We Specialise in being SOCIAL GROUPS for the UNATTACHED, highly established and meeting weekly in

BRISTOL
CARDIFF & Gwent
GLOUCESTERSHIRE
SWANSEA
BATH/Wilts
SOMERSET

WE DO...

Assist you on your first evening by arranging that one of our existing members rendezvous with you and introduce you to those present.

WE DO...

In addition to meeting mid-weekly, every weekend are organised dances (quaintly called Les Bops) where allied to the evening is exceptionally good value overnight accommodation at some of S.Wales and the West Country's finest hotels).

That's why people throughout the UK are currently joining Plus Dining Evenings/Dip & Dine which are member led (so no 'rip-off' surcharge) Walks, Theatre Trips, House Parties, Golf, Horse Riding, Sub Acqua Diving, Caving.... a very balanced and full programme of events.

WE DO...

Give value for money as all new members are introduced for a 6 month period at £25!! Because of our approachable joining fee we can afford to be selective. (We are able to maintain excellent male/female balance figures because real men don't pay extortionate joining fees)

WE DO...

Believe that we cannot guarantee you will meet the man/woman of your dreams... although it has happended.. but we can guarantee that there is no finer way to develop a new network of friends.

WE DO...

Offer a welcoming environment for those who are divorced/ widowed/ legally separated and those single (no train spotters!) who have sustained a relationship. We work within age ranges early 30's to mid 50's drawing membership from the professional/ managerial/ business working background. If you would care to find out more details of CASCADE please contact Howard or Jan on

01495 75 53 09
NOON TO 7PM 7 DAYS
FAX: 01495 75 90 46

ATTRACTIVE, humorous and intelligent lady in her forties sought by divorced London man in his fifties. Interests dining, theatre, travel and romance. Please send photograph (returned if requested) to Box No 3606

BERKSHIRE based, tall youthful slim 40's, solvent successful and straight-forward an unfulfilled romantic, appreciative of life's comforts, dog and underdog lover! Looking to provide support and receive same from an attractive and intelligent, slim and stylish, loyal lady 30/40's. Honest photo app. Reply to Box No 3561

FALLEN Millionaire, 50 years young, working his way back up the ladder again. Own business, property, car etc. Handsome, interesting, experienced. Lots of interests, personal assets and love to give slim lady 40-55 who would be happy with things as they are now, and ecstatic when back on top. Prepared to travel for that special lady. Photo appreciated. Box No 3419

GENTLE Aries Renaissance bookman, offers sense of fun, a slow hand, imagination, and a firm resolve, to unconventional loyal thinking type of girl of any nationality, interested in risking a new beginning. Please Reply to Box No 3496

GLADYS EMANUELLE or similarly charming Rubenesque to partner n/s 51yr E/Anglia. London single again Arkwright. GSOH av. height build fit professional solvent own hair teeth. Enjoys travel music and much more. If love laughter caring sharing appeals pl. write. Photo if poss.Box No 3492

GOOD-LOOKING, slim, caring, cultivated chap (39) with old fashioned values but young at heart, who enjoys the sea, firesides, friendships, forests, Finzi Friel, Fanliks and foreign parts. Seeks stimulating, sv site, sensual lady with country lifestyle and a love of animals for deep and meaningful future. Berks /south /anywhere. Photo please. Reply to Box No 3639

GRADUATE male. N/S, slim, 5ft 11ins. E.Berkshire, wide interests, seeks attractive, intelligent woman under 48. Photo pref.Box No 3416

GREEK GOD 46 seeks Aphrodite with nice jugs. Photo? South. Please Reply to Box No 3482

HAMILTONS CLUB (West Yorkshire) Newly opened. Sauna, Jacuzzi, Massage. Mon-Fri 10-10pm. 0274 743432

HAPPY, warm, tall, slim gentleman 57yrs 6ft 2ins divorced. Various interests, countryside lover. Seeks total relationship and commitment with tall unattached vivacious 50 ish woman Salisbury/Bournemouth area. Photo appreciated. Box 3540

HOUSE-TRAINED & fairly affectionate, abandoned 52, seeks partner initially to share Far-east holiday inc. H.K. 7s in March.Reply to Box No 3529

INDIAN Engr. 50+, Surrey. WLTM seeks LIFE SCIENTIST, 5'6"+, brunette, for pre'60 RESPONSIBILITY. A child OK. my 1 at Oxford.Box No 3622

IS there an attractive, humorous, healthy woman out there, under 35, who has seen and done it all, who would like to settle in the country and have a family? Your potential man is 42, single, good-looking, successful, highly-paid, caring, into Mozart and golf, and in the same boat. All replies with photo answered.Box No 3392

JAPANESE businessman very successful but single 60's seeks female friend/companion 30+ to share travelling and the good things in life. Homes in London, Paris and Japan. Even better if you speak a little Japanese. Please Reply to Box No 3630

LAWYER tall, 30's, adventurous & attractive. WLTM a slim sensual foxy lady 40-65 for fun. Photo plse. London. Box 3546

LECTURER, 40, 6', single seeks lady with class! Travel, arts, walks.Box 3481. Lond & S.E.

LIFE'S A dream then our partners are struck down. Let's rebuild. Your Goldie Hawn type, 5ft 2/4ins, size 10, athletic, adventurous, fashionable, 50's looks 30's, kind, gentle, not working. Me: Dr (PhD) mid Surrey. Hobbies: sports, travel, socialising, JAG XJS. Photo vital. Reply to Box No 3276

MALE, fit, slim, very presentable, genuine, honourable, professional, very secure. Seeks true, permanent live-in girlfriend. Someone free, seeking marriage 30-47 years. Hopefully very trim and petite but feminine, predominantly curvaceous. Genuine, caring, meaningful, on-going loving, positive relationship. Established south of London. Please Reply to Box No 3409

ME, travelled widely, live London, mid fifties, strong (mind and body), honest, resourceful, sensitive and confident, own home and business. You, seriously rich, attractive, missing warmth of the shared experience, the glance, the touch, new challenges. Reply to Box No 3628

POLICE SGT 37, with attitude, seeks actress, artist, musician, dancer. Superstar or otherwise. Midlands. Box No 3543

MY 1995 resolutions, to meet the right lady and learn to dance the Tango. London based widower, 51, fit, solvent and undamaged, looks, height and build average but style and personality exceptional. Enjoying life but missing out on one thing, the friendship and affection of a special lady. This attentive, mature, amusing chap would love to hear from an attractive and beguiling younger lady who has a zest for the good things that life has to offer but knows like myself, that it takes two to Tango. Please do send a photo with your letter.Reply Box No 3634

MY 1st Ad. was, frankly, over-optimistic and not a success. This is straightforward. Are you 30-40, caring, sincere, n/s, and living within easy distance of Leeds? If so please reply with a photo to this separated 43 yr. old at Box No 3444

NEXT WEEK'S lottery winner seeks playful 40ish female to help spend it. Will enjoy an uninhibited relationship, with lots of laughter & variety & prefer a man to be tenderly loving yet dominant therein.Anyone North of Watford? (preferably). Please Reply to Box No 2991

NICE-LOOKING well travelled professional, young 43, good company, currently learning French seeks French speaking lady for romance travel and possibly tennis. S W. London. Please Reply to Box No 3608

ORIENTAL mixed race gentleman 52, 5'8", widowed, slim, Managing Director, active politician - Conservative. WLTM a lady 40-50 for wining and dining and maybe more. London /S.E. Reply to Box No 3407

PROFESSIONAL man young 50's wants: involvement with cuddly intelligent attractive discerning young at heart lady. Photo & C.V. then let us meet probably W. Sussex/ Hants. For reply write to Box No 3484

PROFESSIONAL male 40's U.S. citizen, U.K. resident. Seeks attractive lady for romance & fun. London.Box No 3550

RICHARD GERE look-alike (?!) Late 50's, 5'9", n/s, divorced 10yrs, articulate, world-travelled, sensitive, passionate, devoted to Beethoven, Mozart, Ronstadt & beautiful women seeks lover, wife & occasional mother 38-55. Box No 3386

SEMI-RETIRED ex-publican early 50's slightly frayed round the edges, one previous careful owner, seeks a petite lady 35-46 to help with his re-entry into the real world. Letter and photo appreciated. West Berks area. Please Reply to Box No 3638

SINCERE secure successful very youthful 44 country-loving man WLTM younger attractive n/s lady to share beach walks golf course, fireside. Photo app. N.E. Scotland. Box No 3566

SINGLE good-looking educated 55, 5'11". Own successful business. Seeks warm-hearted attractive single woman 20's 30's who would like to be shown a good time! My interests - classic cars/bikes/music, theatre & generally the good things in life. What are yours? London/S E.Reply Box 3383

SMART, Rich, good looking man, 35, American (yes American) in London, perhaps forever. Passionate about all interests. Seeking outgoing, independent minded, smart, slim companion, any age, for fun, adventure and other good things Box No 3490

SUCCESSFUL Executive based in Madrid, going to London often. Good looking, cultured, well travelled N/S! Loves golf, art, cinema, music. Seeks mate age to 35 attractive, unattached who enjoys the challenge of living passionately. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 3479

SUCCESSFUL professional sporty west Londoner (45) with spirit of adventure & GSOH lots of TLC + more seeks attractive uncomplicated n/s lady 30+ for that special relationship. Send photo to Box No 3084

TALL dark slim prof male 40 looking to share fun times & tender moments + the good things in life with someone special. WLTM an attractive classy slim prof lady 30-40 with GSOH easy-going & warm-hearted. North-east area. Photo & letter please to Box No 3624

TALL dark and handsome Scorpio male (33) seeks stunning soul partner for lifes travels. Photo essential.Box No 3408

HIS ARMOUR PIERCED
His wounds now healed. Soldier of love searches the barren wastelands for the one maiden who is destined to share Knight times of passion and a life-time of love in faraway places where dreams come true.
Maiden: 22-33, charming, attractive, intelligent, funny and very passionate about the important things in life.
As for the knight (28): I am searching for someone similar to myself.
Just hoping for your reply,
THE KNIGHT OF PASSION
London/home counties Box 3371

TALL good-looking west London based gentleman 46 many interests seeks attractive humorous lady for friendship and romance in lasting relationship Photo app.Reply Box No 3379

TEMPTING fate A Clairvoyant told me I will meet and marry an attractive, blue-eyed blonde who knows her own mind. Loyal & loving, aged 28-30 with blonde daughter aged 6yrs, who has just finished a disastrous relationship. I am the new man in your life. (north-west area) mid 30's, professional & attractive, kind, caring & fun, who will help you achieve life's ambitions, unfortunately she didn't tell me your ph no so please reply with photo to Box No 3585

TRAVELLING James W Midlands, 40 yrs young, has temporarily lost his direction. I am looking for an attractive, fun-loving, slim, female 25-35 yrs to put that kick back into my heels. Can you help? Please Reply to Box No 3582

VERY Good Looking & successful business man, 50, 6'9" caring, romantic & living in the countryside, seeks a beautiful & stylish, well spoken refined lady, 35-45, who is romantic, caring, tender & loving. Someone very special who can share varied interests from good music to dining out, log fires & a close, loving relationship. Please reply with photo to Box No 3186

VERY good-looking successful man aged 41 who through pressure of work has allowed social life to come 2nd. Now wishes to meet a very good-looking tactile intelligent lady for wining and dining in a fun 1-1 relationship. Recent photo & tel no appreciated. Location unimportant. Please reply to Box No 3557

WARM considerate 49yr successful self-employed professional lives in Surrey seeks attractive lady for close long-term relationship. Photo app. Reply to Box No 3624

WEST-COUNTRY yachtsman, 50's own business, enjoys music and theatre, as well as the outdoors, kind considerate & humorous Seeks slim mermaid. Let's exchange details. A photo would be nice. ALA.Reply to Box No 3673

WIDOWER 63, 6ft, n/s, solvent, with many interests. Home and car owner, would like to enjoy the company of a caring and attractive lady for a committed, sincere relationship. Photo appreciated. North Wilts. Please Reply to Box No 3614

WOULD lady from southern Ireland who placed ad last December "happy in little black dress or wellies" Contact GSOH Dublin man who would like to get in touch.Reply Box No 3517

34 Y. Norwegian M. blue eyes. Inter. carribean g. Answer/pictures Serious. Romeo & Juliette. Please Reply to Box No 3611

GAY, 30, Man. Director, N. Worcs. Good-looking, straight acting, keeps fit. Non-scene, n/s, fun, G.S.O.H. solvent, great lifestyle/friends. Enjoys holidays, restaurants, cars, life, etc. Seeks similar sound guy for even better times. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 3405

AMERICAN Lawyer (37) seeks slim literate, genteel. SWPF (30-37) photo, serious particulars Please Reply to Box No 3321

A RECIPE For Romance: start with reasonably handsome blue eyed blonde 39 loving generous kind & honest however not perfect add in theatre restaurants travel romantic evenings in/out. Blend with attractive stylish tall lady. Serves 2 for friendship possible LTR photo appreciated Box No 3100

ARE you feminine, unattached slim, attractive well-spoken, elegant, warm & affectionate who WLTM widower with a quiet but comfortable life-style in Hertfordshire? I am 71, semi-retired, young at heart N/S active, healthy, responsible, caring. Brisk walker, poor golfer, improving bridge player, keen home musician (light music), enjoy good food, wine, holidays & breaks. Could our GSOH be compatible & lead to happiness & a loving relationship together. Box No 3122

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

SINGLE? DIVORCED? WIDOWED?
YOU ARE NOT ALONE!
JULIAS SINGLE DIRECTORY
Will help you contact other intelligent and enterprising single people in London & S.E.
PHONE 0483 894923

ARE you 30's - waiting for a romantic 43 yr old Co. Director (Jewish n/c n.s. g.s.o.h.) to sweep you off your feet? Do you like Cinema, theatre, eating out (or nights in!) Current affairs (Con) & want to share life and lots of love? Then I want to hear from you (photo pref) Box No 3267

ASIAN lady (35/45) with humour, grace & intelligence sought by divorced English businessman living in London. Interests varied - dining, romance & travel. Please respond with photograph to Box No 2908

ATTRACTIVE knight in shining armour currently disguised as Co. Director (43) needs rescuing by NS, attractive, intelligent, witty, professional Damsel (distress optional) N. London, Beds, Herts, Bucks. Letter & Photo to Box No 3288

ATTRACTIVE Man (48) tall fair blue eyes, completely normal nice and fun and loyal, looking for similar lady (32 - 42) for love, marriage, photo please. SW London. Box No 3264

ATTRACTIVE Amorous slim lady sought by male 50. Photo Pls. London/SE. Box No 3269

CIVILISED unattached, successful Oxbridge man (54), interests include classical music, travel, theatre, arts generally, sport, keeping-fit, seeks articulate and intelligent professional/ academic woman, 30s/40s for caring relationship, marriage if compatible, possibly to late-start or extend family. Photo appreciated and returned. London and SE area. Box No 3121

COUNTRY HOUSE needs TLC and style, extra perk is charming owner 50+ intelligent, active, sails, skis, but lacks cuddles and love. SE. Box No 3383

CREATIVE professional man, conventional on the surface but deep underneath, seeks woman soulmate to share life and laughs with mid 30's, tall & self-aware. Interests include sport, music, travel and the outdoors. Reply to Box No 3119

DESIGNER 48, solvent, only tie his cat. Many varied interests including film, theatre, music, scuba and travel. Waiting to meet n/s female with a sense of fun and adventure for jolly good time! Box No 3259

ENGLISHMAN, house in S.W. France, flat in S.W. London, seeks n/s, educated, fit, French speaking English woman, 50-65, to play tennis, ski downhill, & enjoy opera, gardening, food & wine. Non-working ex-wife preferred.Reply to Box No 3085

ENGLISH Gentleman living South of France, young 60's, seeks lady to share life in sun and varied interests. Please Reply to Box No 3171

ESTABLISHED but not wealthy genuine young 60's Widower seeks slim "power dresser" classy society type with no ties lady 46+, not averse to little smoking with view to marriage in average lifestyle. London preferred, but not essential. Letter with photo please.Box No 3238

EVERYTHING I want except you - if around 36, slim, sensuous, eyecatching and ready for a memorable and possibly permanent relationship please send detailed letter & recent photo which will be returned by a 46 year old single company director living one hour from Lincoln. Reply to Box No 2761

FIT, slim, country loving chap, 68, with super farmhouse, Kent hop, gardens, needing slim, dishy lady, late 50's to spoil & cherish, perhaps medical or arts. Photograph will help, promise return, n/s please.Box No 3177

FRENCH man, 31, single, 1m74, non-smoker, seeks nice & kind girl (18-30) in London for correspond. great friendship, mutual visits and maybe permanent relationship. I want to improve my English. Hobbies: Travels, music, humour, languages, exhibitions, stamps + England. Write to: Francois Rosicki, 88 Rue de Reuilly, 75012 Paris, France.

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

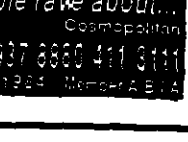
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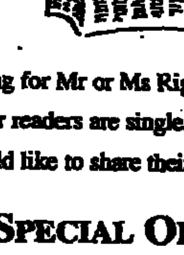
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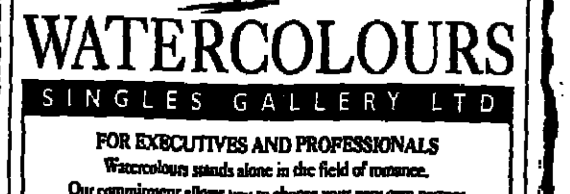
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Meat doesn't grow on trees



FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY

A few weeks ago, the butcher in our nearest village announced that he'd bought a cottage in France and was hanging up his cleaver for good. One more country butcher bites the sawdust. It was a haphazardly built wooden shop unsettling to any health inspector reared in the age of white tiles and stainless steel; but it had given good service for two generations.

Although its meat was fine, it was the banter we shall miss the most. Whether you bought a bone for the dog or a brisket for the pot, Peter gave every customer at least a minute's quick repartee that set you up for the morning (and, come to think of it, induced you to buy something you never intended).

Being a wise chap, instead of sending his goods and chattels to the local auction house, and parting with a few per cent of their modest worth, he crammed the whole lot into the butcher's shop window and sat behind the pile, inviting passers-by to purchase. Where once had lain steaks now stood sofas; lamp shades where I remembered lamb chops; libraries of books where the livers had once been proudly displayed. I had been browsing for a few minutes when he tapped me on the shoulder: "I have something out the back, you'll never guess." It was a hand tool with a wooden shaft like a small axe, except that on the opposite side to the blade protruded a blunt spike about six inches long. He proudly declared it to be grandfather's old pole-axe. The pole-axe was a deadly device used for the killing of animals before the invention of the humane killer with its captive bolt. "My grandfather, he could get hold of them bullocks and one swing with this," he waved it threateningly in the air, "and they were gone."

We went into the back of the sheds which had once been the slaughterhouse. Peter picked up a rusty and equally deadly looking cleaver. "I can remember that shining till it gleamed," he said, looking at the now corroded and pitted blade. "Know what it's for?" He flung it in the air. "It was for halving pig carcasses. You hung 'em up and one swipe of this and they were split in two." I gave him a tenner and, pleased with my purchases, put the cleaver and the pole-axe into the boot of the car, breaking my regular rule of never buying bits and pieces that I have no intention of using.

Does it strike you as gruesome that I should find some satisfaction in owning artefacts like these? Do you feel you should ring the police and have my garden dug over, just in case? Well, I am afraid I feel exactly the reverse. They are comforting and humane objects worthy of some honour. It is because we no longer face up to the fact that animals must be killed to put meat on our plate that we have allowed farming to inflict the injustices on them which are now arousing public passion.

It was the small slaughterhouses, like the one from which I rescued the pole-axe and cleaver, that in a strange way were guarantees of animal welfare. The regular killings were a semi-public affair. All the villagers knew what went on; they sensed whether the place was clean or filthy. Equally importantly, they could judge the health of every animal that died. Cattle, pigs and sheep were probably driven down the main street — there would be no chance of any sickly or mistreated animal escaping the gaze of the villagers. It would not have been possible for a cow exhibiting the pathetic symptoms of mad-cow disease to pass unnoticed into the food chain.

But as we have learned to our cost, it can easily happen these days. The rearing and killing of animals happens behind closed doors. It is only since we have been given a glimpse of the appalling transport trade — which is but one of the injustices heaped upon farm animals — that we have made any kind of fuss.

As I have said so many times in this column, we must turn back the clock to find any solution. Legislation will not ease our consciences, only an honestly made connection between farm animals and food on our plate. The over-zealous Food Safety Act closed the small abattoirs. We must reopen them, so animals can be killed as close to the farm as possible in conditions as stress-free as we can make them. Let the butchers in towns and villages proudly show us where their meat is reared, by whom, and how carefully it is killed.

City-dwellers show a marked inclination for out-of-town shopping these days. Well, let them shop a little further out; let us have more country butchers selling meat we can honestly enjoy, rather than residing in a cottage in France and leaving the tools of their trade behind them.

Journey to the centre of the Earth

A wasteland in South Yorkshire is being transformed into a theme park dedicated to the well-being of our planet

A few miles ouside Doncaster, the river Don flows brightly past alders and sallows through a shallow valley. On a ridge to the south stands Conisbrough castle; to the north rises a bleak, red and black landscape of coal spoil — all the waste products of a century and more of mining, now soaked in acid and even arsenic.

But the wasteland is swarming with activity — bulldozers and cement-mixers roaring, and at weekends men, women and children digging and planting trees. For this is the site of a vision that is rapidly taking shape — an Earth Centre, which will be a model of land reclamation, and a home for high-tech demonstrations of the healthy use of our planet.

It all began in the late 1980s, when John Letts, the founder and chairman of the museums support organisation, National Heritage, began to think about creating a modern museum of the environment. He considered some London locations — Bankside, Battersea power station — then went to talk to Jonathan Smales, at that time the United Kingdom director of Greenpeace. Why, they thought, don't we have a great open-air centre that would be a demonstration in its own right of "sustainable development"?

That is the key phrase in all the current environmental thinking. It implies no hostility to development and progress — on the contrary. It simply means drawing on the earth's resources without diminishing or damaging them — in the words of Jonathan Smales, who at the age of 35 is now masterminding the project, "leaving the earth in as good a shape as we find it".

A not-for-profit body was set up as Museum of the Earth Ltd. They soon found the South Yorkshire site — 300 acres of deserted coal-mining land, leased to them by Doncaster Council at a low rent for 99 years. They brought in some sympathetic businessmen to help them, and raised support and money from many bodies ranging from the European Union and the Department of the Environment to the Dearne Valley Partnership, a joint body set up by the three local authorities of Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham. They are now well under way with the first phase of the scheme, which will cost £2 million.



Mr Smales (left) on site

By July of this year, when they plan to open the Earth Centre to the public, the wasteland should have been transformed. Visitors will be able to step straight from the redesigned Conisbrough railway station into an elegant green reception building by Feilden Clegg Design, then cross the river into a landscape of gardens, fishponds and farm surrounded by natural woods and wetland. Eventually there will be 80,000 trees on the site.

The first main purpose will to be to show how the land can be cultivated and fish and animals can be reared both profitably and sensitively. The goats and cows and geese will be simply but comfortably housed, the carp breeding in reed-fringed, unpolluted ponds, the vegetables and herbs on sale as evidence of how cheap and delicious the products of organic farming can be.

A special Swedish-designed windmill, or wind turbine, will be in operation. It will show that, to exploit wind energy, it is not necessary to have a "wind farm" with lines of windmills, but that a village or small town can produce a great deal of its energy needs with a single turbine of this kind.

In the middle of all this will rise the Global Village — an educational play and adventure area for children. They will be able to learn about animals and farming throughout the world, and even identify with the animals as they scramble over climbing frames that force them to adopt the movements of camels and monkeys.

At the heart of the Global Village, as a symbol of imaginative resourcefulness, will stand a great Kirghiz yurt, or nomads' shelter, made of hides on a collapsible framework.

Beyond July, the Earth Centre has plans for major developments going up to the millennium. They are bidding to be adopted as one of the choices for Millennium Funding. By 2000, if all the dreams are realised, there will be a striking exhibition centre called the Ark, enclosed in a skin of photovoltaic panels that can harvest the sun's energy.

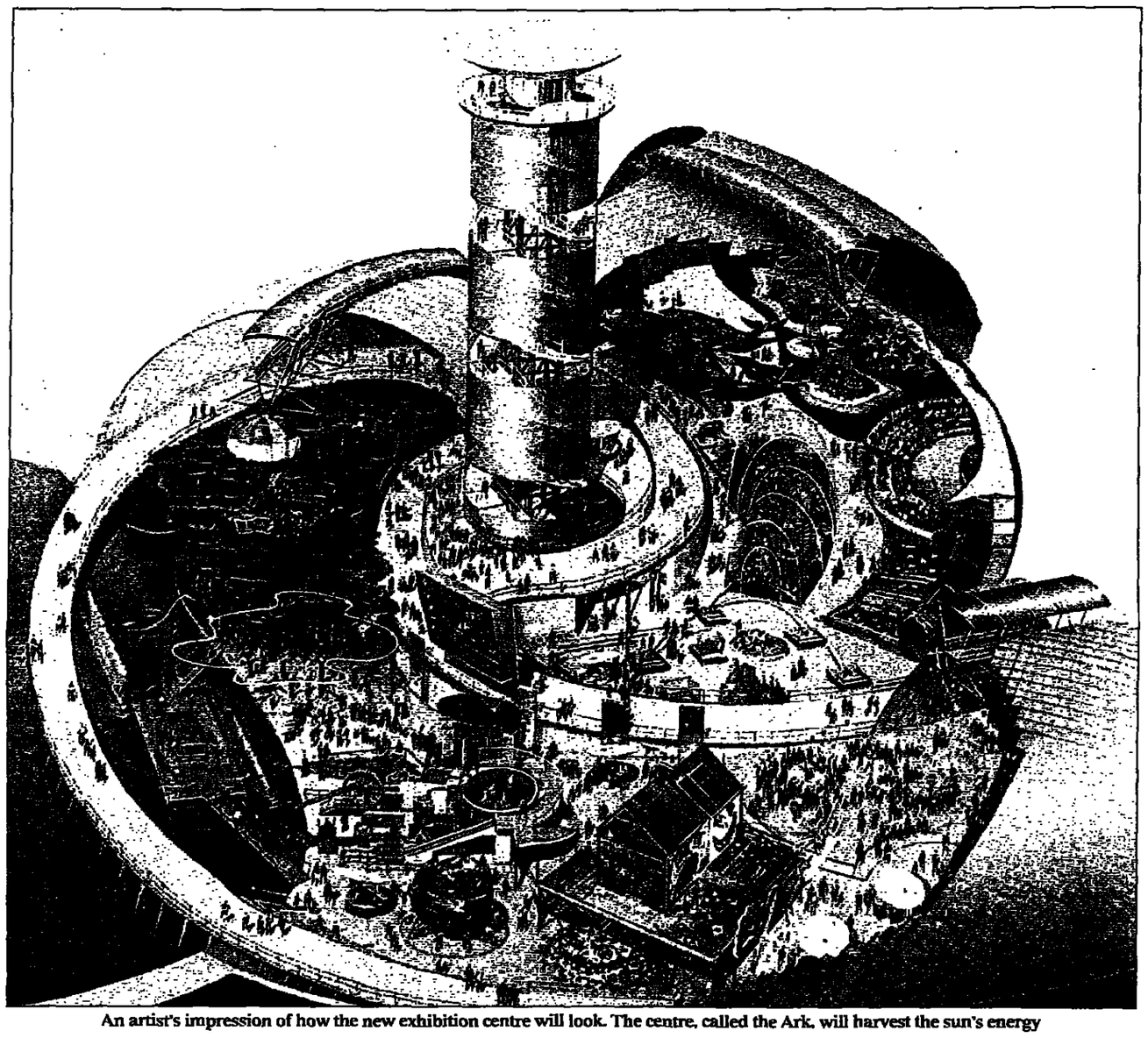
There will also be a Sustainable Industry, Science and Communications Pavilion where, ranged round the ancient themes of earth, fire, air and water, the best current responses to the environmental challenge will be on show. There will be an Earthwatch Gallery, a continuous audio-visual display of the latest threats to the natural world. There will be energy-saving eco-chalets for visitors, a conference centre where it is envisaged green issues will be debated, and a restaurant designed by the architect Will Alsop, while an ultra-light railway will join Conisbrough Castle by a viaduct to the Earth Centre.

At present, 40 people are working on Earth Centre, 20 of them volunteers, 20 of them (including Jonathan Smales himself) on low and erratic pay. Local people come in to help plant the trees. But once the Centre opens in July, they are hoping for 100,000 paying visits a year which will cover 80 per cent of the running costs. It will have some of the characteristics of a theme park — but it will be a theme park with a difference.

By the millennium, they believe that 1,000 local people will be working for the Centre in one way or another — and that their influence will be radiating out in every sense to the ends of the earth.

DERWENT MAY

● *The Earth Centre, Kilner's Bridge, Doncaster Road, Denaby Main, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN12 4DY (01709 770566; fax: 01709 861727).*



An artist's impression of how the new exhibition centre will look. The centre, called the Ark, will harvest the sun's energy

Feather Report

Lovers in the tree tops

ST VALENTINE'S Day is traditionally the day when birds choose their mates for the year, and it is true that if you go around the countryside in the early part of February you are very conscious of birds being about in pairs (*Derwent May writes*).

On one of the warm, dry days last week I was out in some Surrey woodland. The tree tops were full of noisy nuthatches. Some were making that breathy twitter, like a hammer glancing off a piece of metal, that you hear all the year round; others were giving their long, clear spring whistles. I quickly picked one out walking head downwards on a dead branch at the top of an oak. It was feeding, but it was also looking into holes.

Suddenly another came buzzing through the air and landed by it, and the two of them went up and down the dead wood together. They were obviously a pair thinking about where they might make their nest later on. They nest in large holes, plastering up most of the entrance with mud, and a female choosing her mate will need to be sure that he has suitable ones in his territory. Their blue backs stood out very brightly against the pale, barkless wood.

After that it was all pairs. One jay started screaming in a tree, and another flew in and screamed with it. I did not think they were screaming at me, and I was soon proved right — a sparrow-hawk which they must have already spotted flapped overhead and glided away. I say "screamed", which is how that harsh cry of the jay is usually described, but I have found a more precise comparison. I recently heard a man blowing his nose in a very loud, determined way, and I thought "That sound seems familiar". Then I realised it was exactly like a jay's call.

The next pair were mistle thrushes, very symmetrically arranged. A large garden with two tall cypresses in it abutted on the wood, and the birds were sitting side by side, one on the top of each tree, warming their breasts in the mid-morning sun, and churring gently. In that light their spotted breasts looked yellow.



Twittering: the nuthatch

Then I found a lone bird, and we played a game together. I was crossing a more open piece of sandy ground with just a few trees on it, and a green woodpecker flew up from the grass, and settled behind the trunk of one of the trees. I approached slowly, and off it went and did the same on the next tree and then the next. It obviously did not want to go far — I imagine it had found some well-stocked anthills. So I circled round and advanced from the opposite direction. This time it flew back and landed on the grass again.

In the same low sunshine I had an unusually good view of its back, the colour of olive moss, the brilliant red top of its head, and its little black moustache. The fact that the moustache did not have a red centre meant that it was a female. Woodpeckers pair later in the year than many species, and this was obviously one who had not yet made up her mind.

Back in the wood, pairs of starlings were sitting together, with each male producing clicks and whirrings and whistles from his wide-open beak, and waving his wings aggressively at other starlings which passed. A flock of jackdaws circled overhead with clacking cries: then they came tumbling down into the branches where they too disposed themselves in intimate-looking pairs. As I left the wood, there was a screech even more startling than a jay's, and a pair of ring-tailed parakeets shot overhead, their long tails trailing.

St Valentine was doing his stuff. In fact, there is a value in this tendency of birds to form pairs a good couple of months before they mate and breed. In the winter, it is every bird for him or herself. But now the pairs have a kind of quiet, sexless honeymoon in which they can become familiar with each other. Paired birds are far more unfaithful to each other than was once supposed. But the bond that they forge in these early spring days does seem to contribute to keeping them together in the busy months of breeding ahead.

● **What's about:** *Birders — now is the ideal time for listening to the song of the chaffinch. Twitchers — Forster's tern in the Menai Strait. Gwynedd: American wigeon on River Conway, Gwynedd: Hume's yellow-browed warbler at Great Yarmouth Cemetery, Norfolk. Details from Birdline 0891 700222. Calls cost 40p a minute cheap rate, 50p at all other times.*

● *Robin Jacques is away.*

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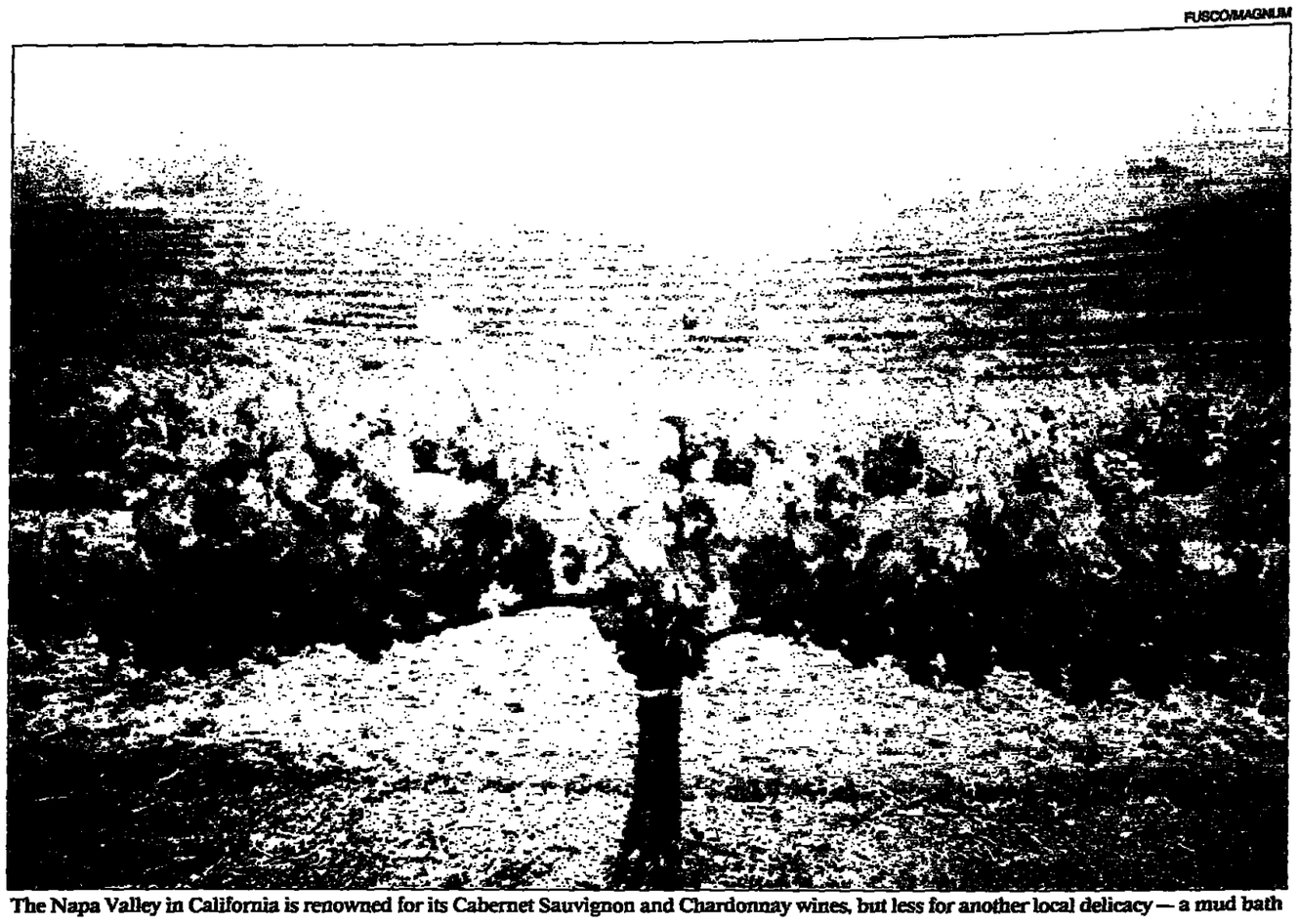
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AMERICA: Wallow in pure luxury from the Napa Valley to San Francisco ...

California's vine romance

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The Napa Valley in California is renowned for its Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay wines, but less for another local delicacy — a mud bath

Deep furrows ploughing through the soil, curving where the land swells or dips, look like fine tracery from up here. We're in heaven over the Californian wine country, 800ft up, drifting above the morning mist in a hot-air balloon called Auberge du Soleil. It's named after the luxury, rustic hotel where, just half an hour ago, we were nestled under down comforters in our terracotta-tiled "chalets", each with its wooden shutters opening onto private decks, a log fire for frosty days, and a view of the Napa Valley's vineyards beyond the slopes of the sculpture-dotted olive groves.

In the New World, you can even tie the marital knot floating in mid-air, with a wicker gondola of guests and a crate of bubbly. The Mumm Winery is just around the corner from the Auberge. In fact, you're spoilt for choice in this region if méthode champenoise sparkling vintages tickle your fancy.

It's 6am and, far below the balloon, the Napa Valley is already waking. Almost out of earshot, Monday morning traffic, heading for San Francisco, glints along Highway 29. A tractor spraying clouds of chemicals surprises a jack rabbit. "A deer!" exclaims a fellow balloonist, smiling beatifically, if somewhat losing her sense of perspective. Sunshine and a cooling wind; a hushed dragon's-blast of propane; the creak of wicker basket and guy ropes. Existence this high up seems ineffably serene.

A few hours later, I'm down to earth and up to my ears in a stinking, steaming quagmire. I thought I'd dip into one of the local delicacies — a mud bath. Dr Wilkinson's salon, in the tourist spa town of Calistoga, proves to be the valley's answer to Dante's inferno. Have I really paid money to be sucked down, naked, into the Devil's hot compost?

Volcanic ash, peat, sulphurous mineral water, and whatever the previous bather left behind, clearly aren't my cup of tea. Eyeing the big shovel against the concrete wall, I have a creeping feeling I might even be relaxing atop some erstwhile customer.

Unfortunately, hysterical laughter only encourages the attendants: they smear my face with blue cream, dump me into a tub of lukewarm water with an old hosepipe (excuse me, a whirlpool bath), squeeze me into the sauna, and finally leave me struggling, weakly, inside a blanket in what appears to be a small detention cell. Health and beauty: it's worth every cent.

More blissful, perhaps, is wine-tasting at the exclusive Hess Collection on Mount Veeder, which offers a heady combination of sipping Cabernet Sauvignon or Chardonnay while admiring a Francis Bacon or a Gilbert and George in Donald Hess's refined pick of modern art.

For the more energetic, there are golf courses and stables or, back at the Auberge, tennis courts, the outdoor pool, and aromatherapy. I decide to ride my hotel-provided bike into the baking hills. Raw, red earth and hewn rock line the twisting road, a battered pick-up spluttering by, as I head for the tinder-dry grasses and blue, reflective waters of Lake Hennessey. As I freewheel down Sage Canyon Road, past pines and giant irrigation pipes, breeze-blustered, with the telegraph lines singing above me, I finally feel in touch with the real California.

Two days later, I'm in a bedroom that is practically in space. My expansive 48th-floor suite, with a breathtaking 180 degree panorama of a silvery San Francisco, the bay and the Golden Gate Bridge, is on top of the world, or at least of the multistar Mandarin Oriental Hotel.

The city grid system, bucked by the San Andreas fault, lies below me like a creased and rucked map. The Trans-Am Pyramid, like a termite's space rocket rises out of quaint alleys of fine antique stores, reaching for the stratosphere. Further off, small but proud, on picturesque Telegraph Hill, stands the Coit Tower: a concrete Roman column housing frescoes of Great Depression labourers, subversive enough to force its closure during the 1930s dockers' strike. And beyond that, the lighthouse on "the Rock", the lonely island of Alcatraz. If you can stomach the boat-trip, it is well worth visiting the island's penitentiary which, until its closure in 1963, was home to some of America's most notorious criminals, from Al Capone to Machine Gun Kelly and Robert Stroud ("the Bird Man of Alcatraz").

The Mandarin is the pinnacle of prestige and is situated in the financial district of town — perhaps this grand hotel is more for businessmen than holidaymakers. At times the hotel's "Asian accent" seems slightly cosmetic and confused — a magnificent marble bathroom is furnished with a mock-bamboo plastic toiletries stand. However, the food in Silks restaurant is excellent and the service impeccable. Piles of clean towels appear whenever you turn your back and the seething sidewalks of China Town and the Italian cafés of Columbus Avenue are only a few minutes away.

The city is full of contrasts. Historically, it has seen both lavish elegance and seamy danger, home to the mansions of Nob Hill and the brothels and opium dens of the Barbary Coast. More recent trends have seen the influx of beatniks to North Beach and hippies to Haight Street, and the city is rightly known as the gay capital of the world.

Today, the Mandarin's safe, pampered haven seems, in spirit, miles away from the seedy strip-joints off Columbus Avenue. But North Beach, like Haight-Ashbury, is civilised. You don't have to be wildly bohemian to browse in City Lights, the famous bookstore that was the home of the Beat generation, nor be able to talk Dada to take time out in the cluttered Vesuvio bar next door. It is well worth visiting these places for a taste of a city almost European in its feel, where the people are surprisingly laid back.

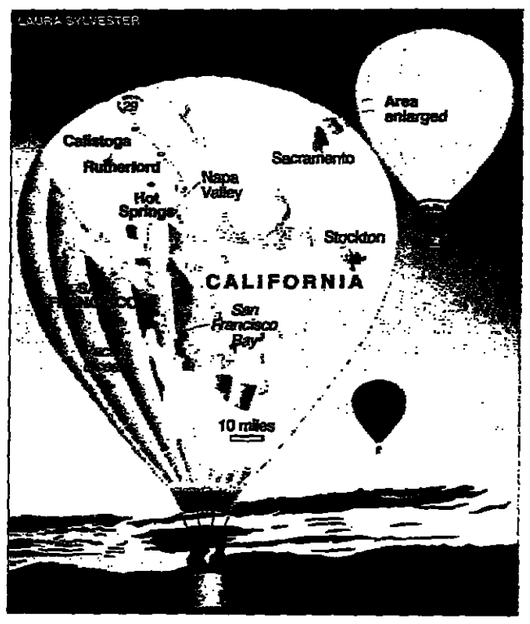
Fisherman's Wharf is the prize tourist trap, packed with expensive seafood restaurants, tacky souvenir shops and lame museums. For a mild thrill, some hang onto the outside of a bell-clanging cable-car, roller-coastering the hills, or experience the Tactile Dome in the extraordinary hands-on Exploratorium Science Museum in the Marina district.

Equally, you could spend whole days being dazzled by designer goods in the city's prestigious stores, or stroll through the dozen distinct neighbourhoods, or even head for the forests, beaches and cliffs of Marin County.

As Dylan Thomas ecstatically scribbled home: "Oh, San Francisco! It is and has everything."

KATE BASSETT

LAURA SYLVESTER



Fact file

☐ Kate Bassett was a guest of the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, 222 Sansome Street, San Francisco CA 94104-2792 (0101-415 985 0999). Deluxe rooms from $275 (£180) a night. Also Auberge du Soleil, 180 Rutherford Hill Road, Rutherford, Napa Valley CA 94573 (0101-707 963 1211). Rooms from $285 (£190) a night.

☐ She flew courtesy of British Airways (0345 222111), which has two flights a day to San Francisco. Return fares from £368 Economy to £3,254 Club class.

☐ Balloons Above The Valley (0101-707 253 2222) offers all-day flights, including lunch, from $165 (£110) per person.



Trans-Am building (left)

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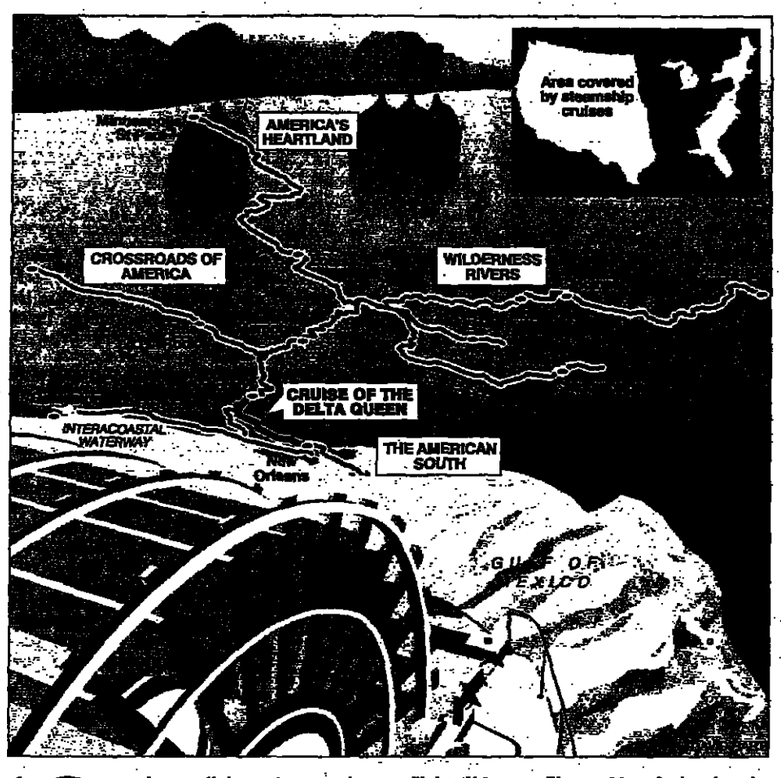
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Steaming down Old Man River


FRED OLSEN

The heyday of the steamboat may be past, but this unhurried form of travel is becoming popular once more



HOLIDAYS IN AMERICA

NEW York, Los Angeles, Miami and Orlando may be the traditional favourites for Britons heading to America, but a number of lesser-known states are starting to target the UK market too.

Virginia, where mountains bring a temperate summer climate, is a new destination for Britons, and for those looking for a touring holiday many standard hotels offer accommodation at around £40 per night.

North and South Carolina offer both mountains and miles of coastline. North Carolina boasts the Cherokee, the Great Smokey Mountains, ski resorts, state parks and the ultra-long Appalachian Trail marked footpath.

Those who have seen Orlando and Miami and want a change should try the beach resorts of Daytona Beach, and St Petersburg-Clearwater.

Daytona is on the Atlantic coast, and has a motor-racing stadium, theme parks and golf courses, while St Petersburg-Clearwater is on a peninsula on Florida's west coast, between the Gulf of Mexico and Tampa Bay.

If skiing is more your style, Trailfinders (0171-937 5400) offers bespoke packages to the Colorado resorts of Vail, Keystone and Breckenridge, with prices from £700 for a week including flights.

River Island Expeditions (0181-810 4525) has put together cattle-driving holidays in Colorado for keen riders, including one seven-night package which requires participants to wear 1800s dress. Prices start from £1,096 per person including flights, and meals are provided on some drives. These holidays are only available in the summer months.

MARIANNE CURPHEY

"One day we'll be able to go 700 miles an hour," Mark Twain predicted more than a century ago, "then we'll want to go seven again."

The sage of the Mississippi has been proved right, to judge by the growing popularity for his favourite mode of travel, steamboating on Old Man River and beyond. For 11 months of the year, two splendid paddle-wheelers, the *Delta Queen* and the *Mississippi Queen*, cruise the vast river system that runs through the heart of America.

The steamboats ply their routes at a leisurely pace, offering passengers a chance to step back in time. The water lies flat, with no noticeable swell even on breezy days.

The river is hypnotic, even on long stretches of wilderness when each bank is an endless forest of cottonwood and willow trees. Its course, as Mark Twain noted, is more crooked than a snake. You are forever scanning the horizon to discover what is around the bend. It could be a small riverfront town, an *antebellum* plantation mansion or a flight of blue herons skimming the water.

At times, the steamboat shaves the tangled shore — "running the willows" as it is known — but mostly the pilot searches for slack water where the current runs less strongly.

"If you meet a pilot who says he's never run aground, you've just met a liar," says John Davitt, formerly a pilot and now captain of the *Delta Queen*. Samuel Clemens started as a Mississippi pilot and took his pen name from the bow-men who swing lead weights on a line to gauge the river's depth. Their cry for two fathoms was "mark twain".

Since Mark Twain's day, steamboats have acquired marine radio, depth-sounders and searchlights, but it is still the pilot's memory that keeps the vessels out of trouble. To qualify, Captain Davitt had to complete a detailed drawing of every mile of the river from memory, 20 miles at a time, 1,700 miles in all.

He says that the Mississippi does not usually shift as dramatically as it did in Mark Twain's time. These days, US Army engineers corral the river within levees and embankments but, as last year's flooding proved, the river is still capable of charting its own wilful progress.

The *Delta Queen* sets sail from New Orleans with the blast of a few notes from her calliope, the traditional steam organ on the aft deck. She is bound for Natchez, Mississippi, three days and 268 miles distant. A National Historic Landmark, she is an authentic sternwheeler, 68 years old, with a 44-ton paddle driven quietly and entirely by steam. From the outside, she looks like an oblong wedding cake. On the inside, she resembles a Victorian bed-and-breakfast with fancy fretwork and stained glass. Her sitting lounge amidships and the forward bar both gleam with polished brass and hardwoods. In her dining room, the curtains are velvet and the napery immaculate. Rocking chairs line the decks. The only items missing from Mark Twain's day are the brass spittoons spaced six feet apart.

Accommodation ranges from the stateroom, once used by Princess Margaret, to more compact cabins, all with shower and lavatory but none with television or telephone. Indeed, the 20th century starts to recede as the *Delta Queen* churns away from her quay into the soupy water that river folk describe as too thick to drink and too thin to plough.

The 180 passengers and 80 crew settle into the chummy routine of a floating community. Veterans of ocean cruising quickly declare the food to be better than on the *QE2*. The essence of river fare is Cajun cooking with its spicy mix of peppers, okra and ground sassafras root. All of these, plus chunks of crawfish, shrimp and catfish, go into a local bouillabaisse known as gumbo. Turtle soup is pure New Orleans with a rich tomato base and very small pieces of turtle meat. Crawfish are known on the river as "mud bugs", which does not sound too appetising, but these mini-lobsters are delicious when served *en croûte* with cream sauce.

As the *Delta Queen* pushes serenely on, Nadine Louviere, an authority on river lore, explains how 19th Century steamboats contributed to the language. Passengers who paid extra to travel on boats with high, fluted funnels that kept the soot off their clothing were known as high-falutin. Similarly, anyone who adopted fancy fashions and snubbed old friends was derided as high hat.

The steamboats also brought music and entertainment to the river. The *Delta Queen* carries talented musicians who are faithful to the honky-tonk rhythms of Dixieland and the subtler tempo of rag-time. The sounds of the calliope — pronounced calaye-oh-pea — are equally genuine but less entrancing. Audible up to ten miles away, the calliope is an acquired taste, like bagpipes, and is played only sparingly.

After 40 hours on the river, the *Delta Queen* pulls into Natchez, now a quaint echo of its heyday as a cotton port. She moors alongside her bigger sister, the *Mississippi Queen*, which boasts the same elegant brass and ironwork, but is more of a floating Hilton, with a gym, cinema, beauty salon, sundeck, pool and a lift to serve its seven decks. Perhaps she is the fulfilment of Mark Twain's dream of a steamboat of unrivalled luxury.

IAN BRODIE

Fact file: steamboat cruises

☐ The author travelled as a guest of the Delta Queen Steamboat Co., which offers cruises ranging from three to 16 nights on the *Delta Queen*, *Mississippi Queen* and (from June) the palatial new *American Queen*. Fares range from $163 (about £105) to $646 (about £425) per night, per person, depending on cabin category. Rates are based on double occupancy and include all on-board meals and entertainment.

☐ Boats can be boarded in New Orleans, Memphis, St Louis, St Paul, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Nashville, Chattanooga and Little Rock, all of which can be reached by British Airways (0181-897 4000) with through service on USAir.

☐ For more information about steamboat holiday packages, write to the Delta Queen Steamboat Co., Dept FY95, 30 Robin Street Wharf, New Orleans, LA 70130-1890, USA. (0101 504 586 0631).

☐ Information and reservations are also available from the company's British sales agent: Fred Olsen Travel, White House Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 5LL (01473 292200).

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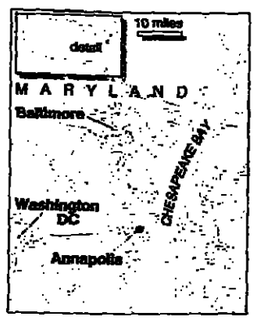
AMERICA: Maryland is serene, charming, and home to heavenly crab patties, says **Tunku Varadarajan**

The day a crab caught me

I thought I'd gone mad. For days after my return from Maryland I could think of nothing else but crabs. I was short with my girlfriend, wayward at work, forgot appointments to meet for squash, neglected to shave.

The crab which had cast this spell over me was the Maryland Blue, a scrumptious little creature which the locals love as dearly as they do their own mothers. The kitchens of this state are shrines to crabs. When they are hard-shelled you steam them — then tear them apart by hand and crab-mallet; when they are soft-shelled you fry them. And no true Marylander will forget to smother his plate with Old Bay Seasoning, so tangy that it almost makes the cooked crabs "jump off of the platter."

The apogee, however, is the crab cake: soft, moulded patties of spiced crab meat, bound together with egg, and fried gently in butter till golden.

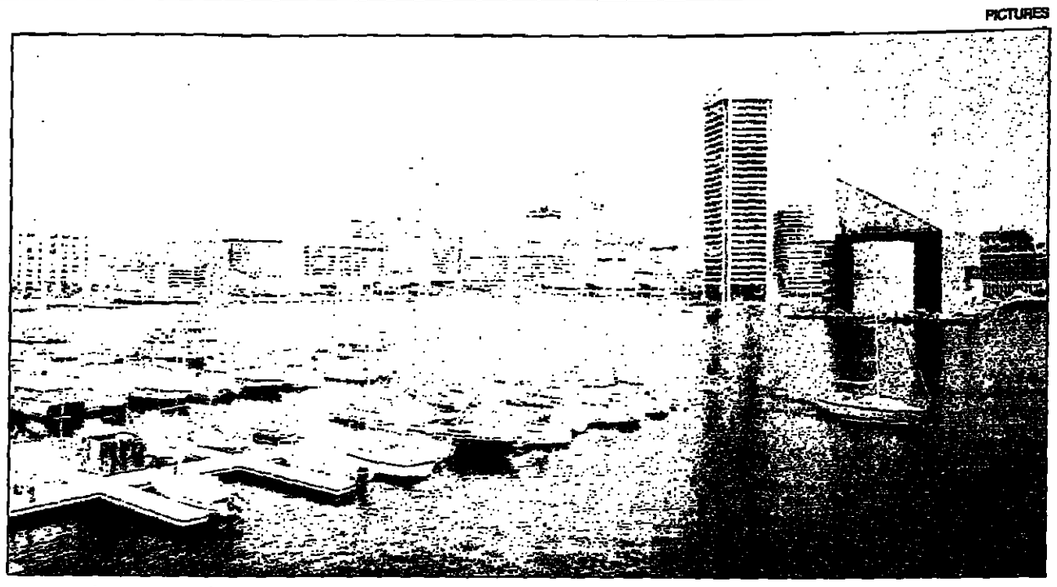


Of course there is more to Maryland than crabs; and if snobs from Washington (big brother next door) say otherwise, tell them to jump into the Chesapeake Bay. I can think of few other places in America which are as gentle and relaxing, as safe and reassuring, as Maryland. There is no metropolitan menace, no no-go areas, little urban decay. Baltimore, the state's largest city, is an example of civic regeneration on an almost old-fashioned scale. Where there was once depression and decline — it had gone the way of most port cities after the war — there is now a buzz of self-esteem and humour. The city has undergone the most remarkable transformation in the recent history of urban America. If only Hull were like this, or Portsmouth.

For the visitor, this civic pride is most apparent in the bustling harbour, where families promenade and polished buskers rub shoulders with more erratic street magicians. There is food everywhere, and much munching on hot dogs, pretzels, doughnuts and other kinds of edible Americana.

The National Aquarium, a giant blue whale of a place, is at the harbour's edge, packed with children who are as wide-eyed as they are voluble. It is an arresting place in which time passes at the speed of a cruising dolphin: I spent four hours there, having gone in expecting to get bored after just a few minutes of brightly coloured fish in tanks. A short hop away by water taxi is Fells Point, the centre of Baltimore's ship-building industry in the last century, but now best-known for having more bars per square foot than anywhere else in America (and some of them offer prizes to anyone who can challenge that successfully).

PICTURES



Civic pride is much in evidence at Baltimore's regenerated harbour

No visit to Baltimore can be described as complete, however, without a pilgrimage to the Babe Ruth Museum. My guide — an old black man with crumpled face and accent — described this legendary baseball player as "one of the ten most important men that ever lived in America". Few in Baltimore, at least, would disagree with that.

The librarian of the Peabody Library certainly did not, as he showed me to the desk which John Dos Passos had once used. So as not to disappoint him, I ran my fingers reverentially along its smooth edges, before returning my attention to the most handsome public room in the city.

If Baltimore is a city renewed, Annapolis, the state's capital, is a town in a pretty time-warp of its own making. It boasts a rich concentration of 18th-century architecture and — I promise this — not a single ugly building anywhere. *National Geographic* rightly devoted a photo essay to its picture postcard charms a few years ago. The town is prosperous (a number of out-of-staters have second homes here, on the Chesapeake Bay), the harbour is studded with sailboats, and the bay's expanse is a sailor's dream. I went out one day on to choppy waters, in the safe hands of a captain pickled in brine and whisky. An hour later, buffeted a bit by the wind, we drank cold beer and chomped — inevitably — on crab sandwiches.

Since Annapolis is home to the US Naval Academy, it is home also to thousands of fresh-faced, tight-trousered courteous young cadets. The town loves them, and cherishes its place in naval history. In fact, it cherishes history of all types: an age gone by was brought to life for me by a buxom-bodiced middle-aged guide, dressed and acting as a "good wife" from the 1780s. Bonnet on head, basket in hand, she drew not a glance from the locals as she led me from street to handsome street, describing affairs in German-accented English. She was, in fact, German, but so too were many of Maryland's early settlers.

"We came here only a few years ago from Bavaria," she said as part of her pretend-role as living historian. "I miss the beer, of course, but the crabs here . . ."

How to get there

☐ The author was a guest of Maryland Tourism in the UK, Spittal Barn Main Street, Great Bourton, Oxfordshire OX17 1QT (01295 750789) and British Airways.

☐ British Airways (0181-8974000). Apex return Gatwick-Baltimore costs £278 (midweek travel, up to March 31).

☐ The Latham Hotel (010 1410 727 7101) in Baltimore costs £90-£120 a night room only; Loew's Annapolis Hotel (010 1410 263 7777) is £90-£105, room only but breakfast included with most expensive room.



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☐ Crystal Holiday's (0181-399 5144) Lakes and Mountains brochure includes ten nights (room only) in the Rockie Mountains at the three-star Mountain Lodge, Breckenridge, Colorado. From £649, including flights Heathrow to Denver.

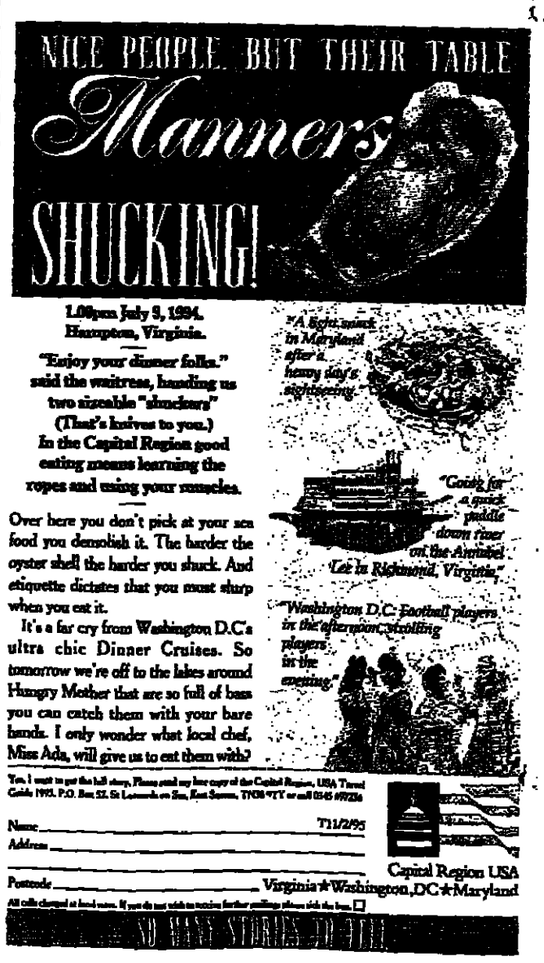
☐ Sunworld (01532 393020) has waterside villas on Marco Island in the Everglades National Park, Florida. Seven nights from £549 based on six sharing, including mooring fees, car hire and return flights Gatwick, Manchester or Glasgow to Orlando. Boat hire available locally.

☐ Castaway (01737 812255) has packages for Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. From £536 for seven nights at the five-star Hilton Head Hotel (room and breakfast) including return flights Gatwick to Savannah via Atlanta. Children from £206 for any length of stay.

☐ Travelpack (01159 424442) self-drive US itineraries include 15 days in Minnesota or 13 nights in Kentucky and Indiana visiting Louisville, Lexington and Indiana's state parks. From £464 per person, including economy car hire and 13 nights' accommodation. Under-12s sharing parents' room cost £65. Return flights from Heathrow, Manchester or Glasgow to Louisville from £339.

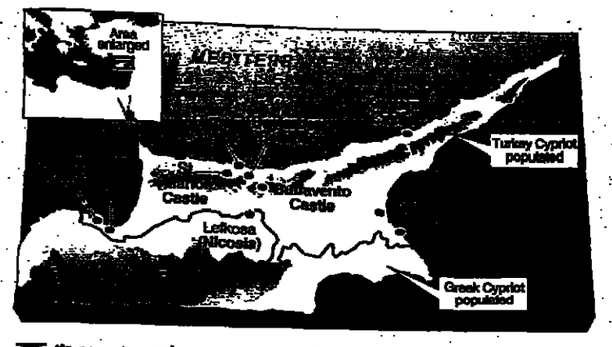
☐ Major Travel (0171-485 7017): 1995 US brochure includes hiking and biking in New England, ranching in Texas, golf in Florida, white-water rafting in the Carolinas, Arizona and Oregon.

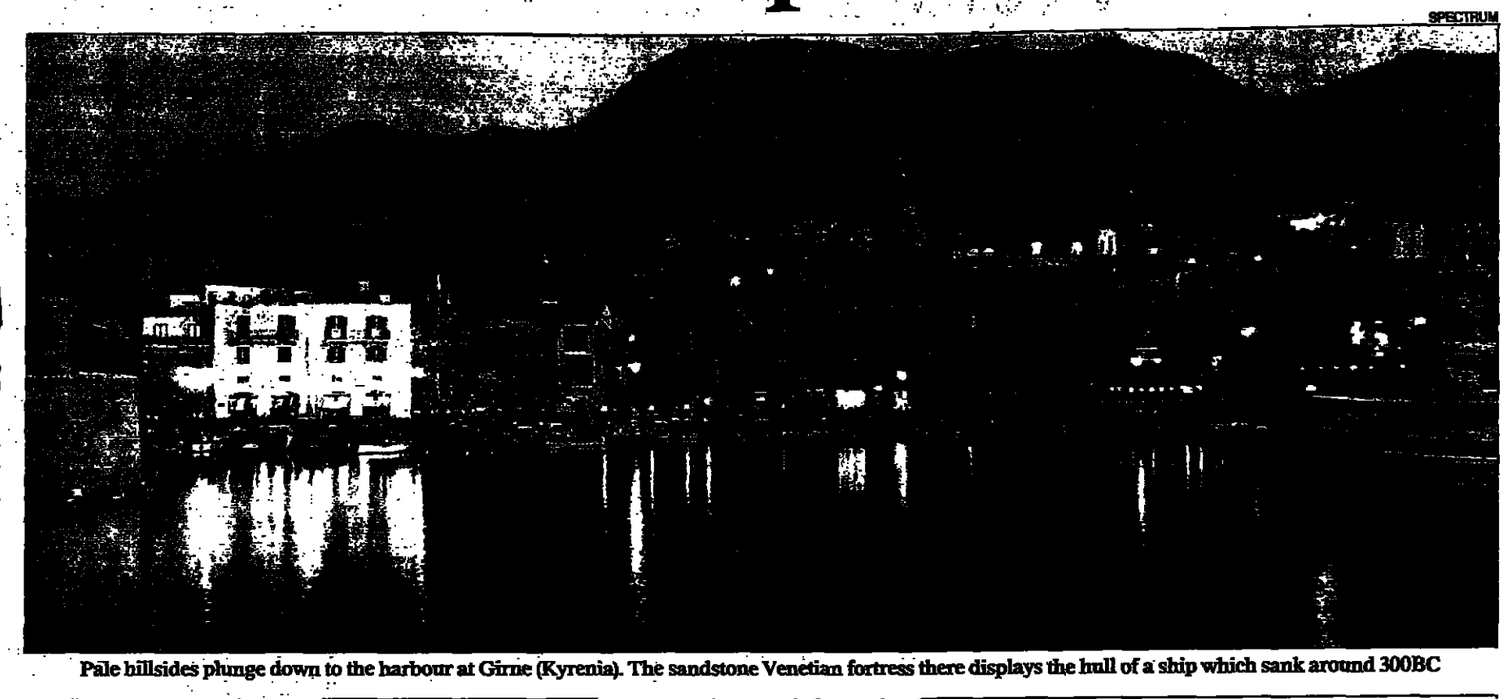
☐ North America Travel Services (0532 431606) has holidays to the Boca Raton Resort & Club, 45 miles north of Miami. From £675 per person (40 per cent reduction for children under 12 in July, August and at Christmas; 50 per cent rest of year) for a seven-night package, including return flights, five-star accommodation, resort facilities and supervised children's programmes.



NORTHERN CYPRUS: Its colourful, shimmering beauty remains undiminished by political upheavals

The other side of Cleopatra's isle





SPECTRUM

Pale hillsides plunge down to the harbour at Girne (Kyrenia). The sandstone Venetian fortress there displays the hull of a ship which sank around 300BC

It's easy to conjure a troubled past standing on the dizzy parapets of St Hilarion castle, cut into a 2,200ft craggy mountain spine in northern Cyprus. The rampart view is awesome: pale hillsides shimmy away vertically through silvery olive groves to Girne's (Kyrenia) Venetian harbour fortress and a sea of deepest turquoise blue. The silence is broken only by live shot from the Turkish military practice ground below.

Originally St Hilarion — named after the eponymous hermit-saint — formed part of a defensive chain protecting this much fought-over island. Flares from Kantara and Buffavento castles were relayed via St Hilarion to inland Nicosia. The Byzantine structure was fortified and extended by the Lusignans then later dismantled by the Venetians who could not afford its upkeep. But the ruins are substantial and well worth the heady climb.

It's the sort of adventure castle straight from a Famous Five story. But I'm not sure what Enid Blyton's gang would have made of the military zone ("No photographs", "No stopping") through which you drive to reach the castle. Would the United Nations soldier (from Manchester) have waved them sternly on as he did us? And what would they have made of the macho military monuments erected by the Turks throughout the island's northern part after the 1974 invasion.

If you visit the medieval walled cities of Lefkosa (the Turkish name for Nicosia) and Gazimagusa (Famagusta) you cannot be in any doubt that the country is a political question mark. In Gazimagusa I encountered a military parade singing gung-ho marching songs and peered across barbed wire barricades at a ghost-town suburb evacuated by Greek Cypriots 20 years ago.

The divided city of Lefkosa has an uneasy atmosphere with its barbed-wire and oil-can United Nations "Green Line" and bored-looking soldiers queueing at automatic banks. Even country roads are punctuated by sentry boxes, although soldiers are generally confined to barracks and do not intrude into more touristy spots.

That said, it's possible to encounter none of these sights while enjoying the considerable plus points of northern Cyprus.

After all, if a country doesn't officially exist neither does it attract mass tourism. There are no high-rise hotels and the beaches are enticingly empty. There is no industry (oranges are the main export via Israel), little pollution and no major tourist developments.

Few visitors climb the Crusader castles or wander around Soli's Roman mosaics and restored amphitheatre. You can stroll through the ancient remains (impressive gymnasium and public baths) of the pre-Christian city of Salamis untroubled by coach-loads of rubbernecks, or relish, in splendid isolation, one of the world's bluest sea-views from the peak-top remnants of the Palace of Vouni built around 500BC.

Northern Cyprus is a *mezze* of cultures and traditions. In a single day you can see a Roman site, a Byzantine castle, a Venetian fortress, an Ottoman minaret, a Gothic cathedral and a British post-box.

Contrasts abound. In Gazimagusa the muezzin calls the faithful to prayer from a former 14th-century French Gothic cathedral. In Lefkosa you can enjoy a massage in the Turkish baths (Buyuk Haman) or visit St Sophia, a Gothic cathedral converted to a mosque in 1572 through the addition of minarets and the removal of stone saints (non-human effigies of angels remain).

In Karaman, a delightful mountain village of white-washed villas and tumbling bougainvillea, you're more likely to hear English than any other tongue. Three-pin 13-amp plugs are still used, pounds sterling are accepted in some places and clapped-out hire cars trundle along the left-hand sides of roads.

I stayed at the Mare Monte, seven miles west of Girne (Kyrenia). Built 20 years ago, the two-storey hotel and bungalows are tucked away in scented gardens along an unspoilt coastline backed by mountain ranges. My room was unpretentious yet spacious with a balcony and raki-stocked mini-bar.

A world away from international hotel clones, the Mare Monte oozes faded chic. Swimming from its private cove is a delight (the sea remains bath-warm between April and November). Other activities include tennis, volleyball, windsurfing and massage. Service in the bars and restaurant is prompt and willing, the food is tasty, and there is live music every night. Eating on the vine-covered terrace is a magical experience. At dinner, moonlight silvers the waves below. At breakfast, sea and sky meet and melt in a gleaming turquoise ball.



The 12th-century Gothic abbey at Beylerbeyi (Bellapais)

A courtesy bus runs regularly to Girne whose horseshoe-shaped harbour is reminiscent of a small English seaside town in the 1950s. Boats bob prow-to-moorings next to café tables. Sit in the sunshine and sip a brandy sour or sample local fish at one of many restaurants. Nothing — particularly waiter service — moves fast here. Girne's massive sandstone fortress is worth exploring, if only to see the lovingly restored hull of a ship that sank around 300BC, and is now displayed with part of its original cargo of terracotta wine jars and almonds.

A short drive into the hills behind Girne leads to sleepy Beylerbeyi (Bellapais), famous for its 12th-century Gothic abbey and Lawrence Durrell's affectionate memoir, *Bitter Lemons*. His Tree of Idleness Bar is now a restaurant, one of three in the village, and idling over a *mezze* or Turkish coffee does come pretty naturally here.

Although cypress trees grow within its ruins, the abbey appears curiously English until the view from its sheer escarpment catches you unawares: orange groves and olive trees, snaking sandy beaches and, beyond these, the luminous sea.

No wonder Anthony gave the island to Cleopatra. Despite its political upheavals, the beauty of northern Cyprus still conquers the hearts of those who visit.

NICOLE SWENGLEY

How to get there

☐ The author was a guest of Imperial Tourism, 79 Lewisham High Street, London SE13 5JX (0181-318 9000).

☐ Imperial Tourism offers a seven-night holiday at the Mare Monte hotel, including flights from Heathrow to Ercan via Izmir, transfers and half-board accommodation for £328 per person, up to March 24, rising to £450 per person from August 31 to October 15. A two-week holiday during the same periods costs £464 or £683 respectively.

☐ Imperial Tourism also offers self-catering accommodation in private villas and apartments. A seven-night holiday at Bird's Nest Cottage, a two-person villa near Girne, including flights, transfers and accommodation costs £287 per person up to March 24, and £375 from July 16 to August 31. A two-week holiday during the same periods costs £341 or £472 respectively.

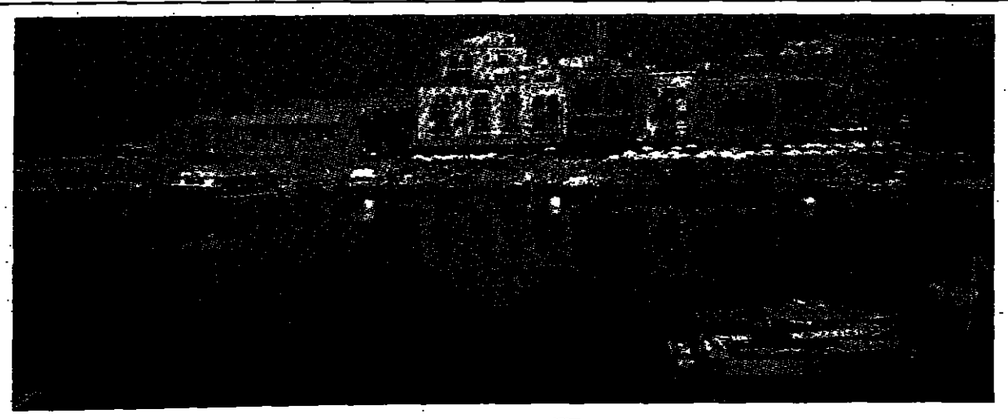
☐ Flights from Heathrow stop for an hour in Izmir (same goes direct). Ask for a removable page if you do not wish to have your passport stamped by the northern Cyprus authorities (advisable if you travel regularly to Greece).

☐ Car hire: Budget Rent-a-Car, 37 Ecevit Avenue, Sergenier Station, Girne has cars, mopeds, bicycles and Suzuki jeeps for hire.

☐ Food: eating out is cheap in northern Cyprus — about £6 per head including wine for mezze, main course and Turkish coffee. The meal I most enjoyed was on Sah Aile Gazinosu's bamboo-covered terrace in Guzelyurt (Mourphou) The owner spoke good English and served a memorable selection of food, including mezze, kleftiko (lamb kebab), sheftalia (smoked sausage) and souvlakia (chicken and lamb kebabs).

Other recommended places include Camin Balik, Girne (special fish mezze, calamari, sheftalia) and the Tree of Idleness, Beylerbeyi (kebabs, sheftalia, souvlakia. Outdoor terrace overlooking abbey and indoor dining area).

☐ Information: Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, 28 Cockspur Street, London SW1Y 5BN (0171-839 4577).



With hand on heart, there are not many areas which we can truly describe as untouched. However, North Cyprus without doubt fits this description. Although there has been a little development of hotels over the past few years, the whole area still has that wonderful quality of peace and tranquillity that could be found on most Mediterranean islands 30 or 40 years ago.

Spring and Autumn are the ideal seasons for a visit. Warm enough to swim, yet comfortable for exploration. Depending on the size of the party there will be either a Guest Speaker and Tour Manager or one leader who will combine both duties.

We are most fortunate to have discovered the perfect base for our week long stay. The Onar Village and Hotel sits high on a hill just outside Kyrenia. The views are wonderful, with the sea in the foreground and the mountains behind. There is the choice of cottages which are scattered throughout the gardens or hotel rooms with balcony.

The 18 cottages are particularly attractive, consisting of bedroom, sitting room, dining area, small kitchen, bathroom and large patios. After a morning or full day's exploration the large swimming pool and sun deck area are most inviting.

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THE ITINERARY

DAY 1 Fly London (Heathrow) to Ercan and drive to Onar Village just outside Kyrenia. Stay for 7 nights.

DAY 2 Drive to Girne (Kyrenia), explore the town on foot visiting the Castle with its unique Shipwreck Museum, the Anglican Church, the Folk Museum and Icon Museum. Lunch at a harbourside bistro. Afternoon at leisure. Dinner at Onar Village.

DAY 3 Drive to 11th century St Hilarion Castle. The view of Kyrenia and the coastal plain is stunning from here. Continue to Lefkosa (Nicosia), explore the city visiting the Girne Gate, Venetian Column, the Buyuk Khan (a 16th century inn), the Selimiye Mosque (formerly St Sophia Cathedral) and if time permits the Mevlevi Tekke Ethnographical Museum. A late lunch at Cyprus Kitchen in Gonyeli just outside Nicosia. Return to Onar Village.

DAY 4 Drive East to St Barnabas Monastery which contains a collection of icons. In the cloisters admire an outstanding collection of unbroken pottery and glass from 3000BC to 500AD. Then visit the most important ancient site of Salamis, once capital of Cyprus. Lunch at Mr Bedi's restaurant above the sandy beach. Then drive to the old quarter of Gazimagusa (Famagusta) visiting Othello Tower, Lala Mustapha Pasha Mosque (formerly St Nicholas Cathedral) and the ruins of Venetian Palazzo. After an ice cream or cold beer at Petek's coffee house return to Onar Village.

DAY 5 Drive West to Guselyurt (Morphou) surrounded by orange groves and market gardens. Visit the Museum and Monastery of St Mamas. Then drive to the western extreme of North Cyprus to the 5th century BC palace of Vouni. There are breathtaking views of the sea and Troodos mountains. Descend to the ruins of Soli, a Hellenistic and Roman city, famous for its 17 tier stone seated theatre and mosaic floor in the 5th century Basilica. Lunch beside the rocky sea shore at Mardin's Restaurant. Return to Onar Village.



DAY 6 Drive to Kantara Castle, mentioned at the time of Richard Coeur de Lion's short stay in Cyprus on the way to the Crusades in 1191. A fairy tale castle with majestic views of both sides of the Karpas peninsular. Descend the mountain to the fishing village of Bogaz for lunch. Return to Kyrenia passing the Royal Tombs and ruins of ancient Enkomi.

DAY 7 Visit nearby Bellapais Abbey in the village where Lawrence Durell wrote 'Bitter Lemons'. It is a magnificent 13th century ruin in a perfect setting. Lunch at Bellapais at the Tree of Idleness or in Kyrenia. Afternoon free for relaxing or shopping. Return to Onar Village. Farewell dinner.

DAY 8 Fly Ercan to London (Heathrow) arriving in the afternoon.

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WINTER BREAKS: Five days in the life of a would-be snowboarder; plus a little-known American resort

Warning: beast on board



ADRIAN MYERS

"The snowboard is the ultimate powder vehicle. With only one edge to worry about there is no danger of diverging skis. However, there is no such thing as a straight line either"

DAY ONE

The neon headline of the French snowboarding magazine, *Surf Neige*, at the newsagents in Cauterets arouses an irresistible urge: "Initiation — devenez une bête en 5 jours!" ("Become a beast in five days!") I am already anticipating some carving and slashing on the best slopes in the French Pyrenees. George, my sceptical Australian brother-in-law, puts one hand over the "une": Become a fool in five days! "It won't take you that long though," he says.

At the age of 16, he has already retired from snowboarding: "I can't afford the chiropractor and physio bills," he says. But my mind is made up — I want to be an unshaven, baggy-trousered, ripping Dionysian boarder, too. The locals are more sympathetic. The girl in the No Limits snowboard shop, a few doors down from the Hotel de Paris, assures me: "It's easy. You'll love it."

Surely my surfing experience will give me an edge when it comes to learning to snowboard — *le surf* as the French call it, surfing on snow. On the other hand, I also bear in mind the tip given to me by an American I ran into in New Zealand: "Lots of padding." Accordingly, before setting out for the cable car, I stuff a cushion down my salopettes and shove on a pair of Risport knee-guards, originally designed to enable rollerbladers to slide down the street on their knees. With armour ballooning out from front and rear, I have no fear of falling. It is standing up again that proves to be the problem.

As George goes whizzing by, he complains that my cursing is loud enough to set off an avalanche. But I make my biggest mistake of the day on the way down again in the cable car. When Sophie, George's 13-year-old sister, ridicules my efforts on the board, I bet her I will be shooting past her and her miserable skis by the end of the week. "How much?" she asks, in her over-literal way. I haggle her down from $100 (£65) to Fr100 (£12) since she insists that "the end of the week" is Saturday — a mere three days away.

DAY TWO

My learning curve goes through a major dip as I head off on my own for the first time and encounter one of the more formidable difficulties faced by the would-be snowboarder: how the hell to get the damn thing on when there is no one to help. If you can't touch your toes, forget it. The second major difficulty is: how to get it off again. There are no automatic release bindings. Once on, you're locked into it, like a ball and chain shackled around your ankles.

So I turn to the experts. My first lesson at the Ecole Française is from Eric, who has completely gone over to snowboarding and only skis for business purposes. "Put all your weight on the front foot," he preaches. "Swing your shoulders more." Great! Now I can do the "frontside" turn (which is, in effect, a right turn); but I can only pull off a "backside" (i.e. left) on my backside. As long as I can figure out a way of turning right all the way down the mountain, I am odds-on for the great board vs skis showdown. Eric suggests that, Cauterets being the elegant old spa town that it is, I should ease the pain with a visit to one of the thermal baths.

DAY THREE

My second lesson comes from Gerard, renowned as the main man on snowboarding. My troubles are over. "You need to put more weight on the back foot," he advises. "Don't swing your shoulders so much." Great! Now at last I have conquered the backside turn. But oh-oh: my frontside has gone out of the window. Now I'll have to turn left all the way down. I try to weasel out of the race and offer Sophie the Fr100 straight out. She refuses: "You have to suffer the humiliation, too."

DAY FOUR

The day of the race. I turn up early to inspect the course and conceive a secret strategy for victory. To hell with turns — I'll just head straight down. We are about two seconds out of the gate when I realise, with horror, that there is no such thing as a straight line on a snowboard: you're always on one edge, at an angle to the rest of the universe, and therefore almost certain to collide with some part of it. The rout is complete when I make mincemeat of a five-year-old at the bottom. I make my biggest mistake of the whole week when Sophie and George are stuffing snow down my salopettes and I blurt out: "OK — double or quits! Same time, same place tomorrow."

DAY FIVE

The day of truth — am I beast or fool? After a night-long blizzard, there are tons of powder everywhere and even the piste is off-piste. The snowboard is the ultimate powder vehicle: with only one edge to worry about there is no danger of diverging skis. As George helps to excavate me from the frozen depths of a ten-foot drift, he comments that the only beast I come close to is a Palaeolithic hairy mammoth. I miss my date for the second race and Sophie, ruthless as only a 13-year-old can be, bills me for Fr200 (£25). George says: "Why don't you go back to skiing?" My body is almost intact, but I don't think my insurance — even with the double winter sports premium — covers a shattered ego.

Just as I am thinking of jacking it all in, I am saved and redeemed by a genuine guru — Vincent from the Pizzeria Giovanni in town, born and bred in Cauterets, who turns out to be not just a dab-hand with pasta and pizzas but an extreme skier and ace *surfeur* on both sea and snow to boot. He leads me up to the highest point and teaches me two essential principles:

1. Bend your legs and tuck your back leg in behind your front.

2. Keep your right arm out in front, don't trail it behind you like an anchor.

After that, well, I won't say it is all downhill, but when I get to the bottom and join up with my four-year-old son, who has just emerged, bemedalled for excellence, from ski school, he is full of praise: "That's it, Daddy! Now you're getting the hang of snowboarding."

ANDY MARTIN

Board Stupid: Vision, page 3

Fact file

☐ Travel: Stansted to Lourdes, via Paris, Air UK (0345 666777) £180 return. Taxi to Cauterets costs around Fr300 (£37).

☐ Accommodation: comfortable two-star Hotel de Paris, Place du Marechal Foch, 65110 Cauterets, (010 33 6292 5385). Fr280-310 (£35-£40) per double room per night (high season); Fr220-240 (£27-£30) low season.

☐ Hiring equipment: No Limits, 8 rue de Verdun (010 33 6292 6448).

Even the snowfall is mammoth

It was November 25, the day after Thanksgiving, and the folks who run Mammoth Mountain ski area had a welcome problem: too much snow.

A wild Pacific storm had rolled in from the Aleutians and sat stubbornly on the lonely eastern flank of the Sierra Nevada, where the smell of bad eggs still bubbles from volcanic fumarols, and ski bums say things like "Awesome, dude," and "Oh man, did you dig that air?".

Having opened for business on October 8, ten weeks before the first snows reach the Alps, Mammoth is on course for a record nine-month winter season; skiers should still be on the slopes on July 4.

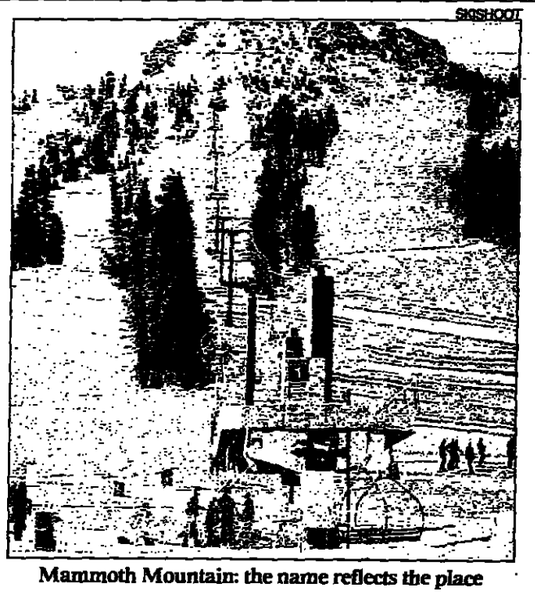
Two hours' drive from Death Valley, this may seem odd. One person who is not surprised, however, is Dave McCoy, the 79-year-old hydrologist who set up a primitive drag lift in the late 1940s after years spent roaming the Sierras taking snow depth readings for the local water board.

The 11,000ft mountain he later named Mammoth — a marketing ploy based on its size — consistently scored the highest reading. The result, 45 years on, is one of America's biggest and, outside California, least-known ski resorts.

Not everything about it is ideal for Britons. It has been said that the imaginatively named Warming Hut 2, at the foot of the choicest intermediate slopes, has the ambience of an oil-rig canteen. And the main village, 15 minutes down the mountain by free shuttle bus, is a ten-hour flight from London, followed by up to six hours in a hire car or 65 hair-raising minutes in a 19-seat turbo prop from LA's international airport to Mammoth's miniature one.

But once you get there, the skiing and the arrestingly unalpine setting banishes jetlag. To the north, beyond pine-clad mounds of lava, are the granite peaks of the Yosemite National Park. To the east lie the deserts of Nevada, and under your boards are 3,500 acres of spectacular skiable terrain (Americans seem more wowed by areas than miles of runs) — enough to keep good skiers busy for at least a week. The higher you go, the steeper it gets. Down by the Warming Hut you "cruise" on "corduroy" (wide and cushy groomed runs), pinching yourself at the surreal friendliness of the lift attendants. But up on California's jagged backbone, 20 minutes by lifts for which queues are virtually unknown, the runs have names like Avalanche Chute and Hangman's Hollow and tend to start with leaps into space. Pack a hip flask and insurance.

GILES WHITTELL



SKISHOOT

Mammoth Mountain: the name reflects the place

Fact file

☐ The author was a guest of the Mammoth Mountain Inn (00 1 619 934 2581) and of TW Express (0171 439 0707), which flies twice a day from Los Angeles to Mammoth. A night at the Inn costs from $105 (£67) B&B for two. The Jagerhof Lodge (00 1 619 934 6162) charges from $69 (£44) B&B for two.

☐ Crystal Holidays (0181 241 4000) and Virgin Holidays (0293 617181) offer seven-night stays including flights. Crystal: from £459 per person (four people, self catering). Virgin: from £499 per person (B&B at the Jagerhof).

☐ Mammoth Lakes Visitors' Bureau (00 1 619 934 2712).

Answers from page 27

SNAVEL
(b) To steal, to appropriate, to grab, slang and dialect, now chiefly Australian, perhaps a variant of *snabble* or *snaffle*. "They're booming the notion o' a new township and snavelling all the land within a mile o' it."

STUDIOLO
(b) A private study hung with paintings, from the Italian diminutive *studiolo*, literally a small study. "She [sc. Isabella d'Este] heard that the decorations ordered for her *studiolo* at Mantua were not progressing, for Luca Liombeni, the painter, was a dawdler."

WORD-WATCH

UROBOROS
(a) The symbol, usually in the form of a circle, of a snake (or dragon) eating its tail. From the Greek for *ouros* tail + *boros* devouring. "The ouroboros, the snake with his tail in his mouth, is the prototype of the vicious circle. The Endless Snake depicts an ouroboros who has become one with himself. It has fallen into the mathematical sign for infinity."

WISSENSCHAFT
(a) The systematic pursuit of knowledge, learning, scholarship, science, from the German: *Wissenschaftslehre*, a theory or philosophy of knowledge (with reference to the work of J. G. Fichte, author of *Grundlage der gesammten Wissenschaftslehre*, 1794).

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CORNWALL: **Jack Crossley** visits an hotel geared to visitors who pack their waterproofs and hiking boots



The seascape views from Fowey Hall must be among the best in the world



GUY NEWMAN

A walker planning his route outside Fowey Hall. The hotel has kept the individuality that endears it to guests

An hotel made for walkers

No en-suite rooms. No TVs, radios or telephones. No *mini-bars or room* service. No smoking in the dining room or bedrooms. Dinner served at 7pm — prompt. Rice pudding every *evening. Pilchard and tomato* sandwiches on the packed lunch menu. Bedtime tea at 10pm.

Not your idea of an ideal break?

Yet it all spells heaven for the fans of Fowey Hall, a magnificent Cornish mansion commanding seascape views among the best in the world.

Many West country hotels would like to command the same occupancy rate enjoyed by the Hall (100 per cent during parts of last summer).

It is an elegant pile indulgently built by a former Lord Mayor of London, Charles Hanson, in the 1890s. It stands in four and a half acres overlooking quintessential Cornish scenery: the Fowey estuary — busy with fishing boats, quaint ferries, smart yachts, and incongruously large china-clay cargo ships.

Salmon, trout and sea bass nose their way in from the sea.

Daphne du Maurier lived on the banks of the river here. The rooks which inspired her to write the story which in turn inspired Hitchcock to make *The Birds* still nest raucously in the grounds of the Hall.

Seagulls abandon the cliffs for the greater comfort of being non-paying guests, and compete noisily with the rooks. They are forgiven for this by those locals who still enjoy gull-egg omelettes.

Phil Beaver manages the Hall for the Countrywide guest house group, and says: "We cater for walkers, bird watchers, country lovers. Although the hall itself was built to the highest luxury standards, our guests are not seeking four-star hotel treatment. There is a television set in the library, but it goes for days without being switched on.

"It was a policy decision not to have en-suite rooms. Other houses in the group have added them — and lost customers to us. The guests like greeting each other in the corridors on the way to the bathroom, chatting about yesterday's walks, discussing today's programme. There's no alcohol on sale as yet, but people can bring in their own."

I dropped in at 7.05pm on one of the hottest days of the year and found dinner already being attacked. There was minestrone soup that was almost a casserole. Prawn cocktail was the other starter, but Fowey Hall's walkers — hardly a young person among them — fell upon the minestrone.

Huge Barnsley chops was the next course served with parsnips, potatoes, cabbage, cauliflower and carrots. A salad and a vegetarian meal were the other offerings. Fowey Hall's walkers went for the chops.

There were two sweets, plus fruit and cheese. Home-made sponge with custard *and* rice pudding. Not *or* rice pudding because rice pudding is served every day as a second pudding, not as an option. "It's tradition," Mr Beaver says. "I don't know how it started, but there would be a riot now if it wasn't there."

> 'The guests like greeting each other in the corridors on the way to the bathroom, chatting about yesterday's walks'

Breakfast is served at 8.15am and that does not mean breakfast starts at 8.15. It is *there* and all ready at 8.15, with sturdy people in sensible boots milling around waiting outside the breakfast room.

At precisely 8.15 one of the guests picks up a rubber mallet and strikes the breakfast gong. People up to the age of 80, facing a full day's cliff walking, plough into porridge, eggs, bacon, tomato, sausages, black pudding.

"All very English," Mr Beaver says, proudly.

Before breakfast the guests had made their packed lunch choices from a list on the wall: meat sandwich; veg spread sandwich; pilchard and tomato sandwich; tomato sandwich; Blue Riband cheese sandwich; sausage roll; cheese and onion crisps; biscuits; yoghurt; chicken nuggets; cake; apple. "Please tick six items — except Saturdays and Sundays when it is five items as we provide afternoon tea. Please note all our sandwiches are made from brown bread."

Although Douglas Hurd once said that his vigilant Government would not have the European Union poking its nose into the "nooks and crannies" of the English way of life there is a sad tale to report.

Here, in the independently spirited county of Cornwall, Brussels has moved in to crush part of a way of life which none of those taking part recognise as being the least bit eccentric.

These doughty souls remember the old bedtime tea ceremony. They would be gathered in the library — with the television firmly switched off. At an unappointed hour (but everybody knew when that hour was) those whose turn it was would go into the kitchen to make tea. There was no appointed list to say whose turn it was, but everybody knew whose turn it was. And whose turn it was to wash up afterwards.

All gone now, this ceremony. Brussels will not have enthusiasts enjoying themselves in the kitchen without food hygiene qualifications.

What happens now is that a Fowey Hall host or hostess has to be on duty to serve the bedtime tea.

The fun has been Brusselled out of the tea ceremony, but no Eurocrat has yet found a way of preventing happy wanderers greeting each other on the way to morning ablutions.

Fact file

☐ Fowey Hall, Hanson Drive, Fowey, Cornwall PL23 1ET.

☐ *Getting there:* By car — three miles after Lostwithiel join the B3269 to Fowey. From St Austell take the A390, then A3082 through Par to Fowey.

☐ Nearest railway station — Par, three miles away. Taxis — Contact Mr C.A. Baseley (01726 833385).

☐ Accommodation: One week full board accommodation costs £209-£239 per person, depending on the time of year.

☐ Walking tours, £5 per day. Themed walks and special interest holidays available.

☐ *Reservations for* Fowey Hall holidays through Countrywide Holidays, Birch Heys, Cromwell Range, Manchester, M14 6HU (0161 224 2855). For short-notice bookings contact Fowey Hall direct: 01726 833104.

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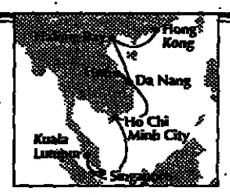
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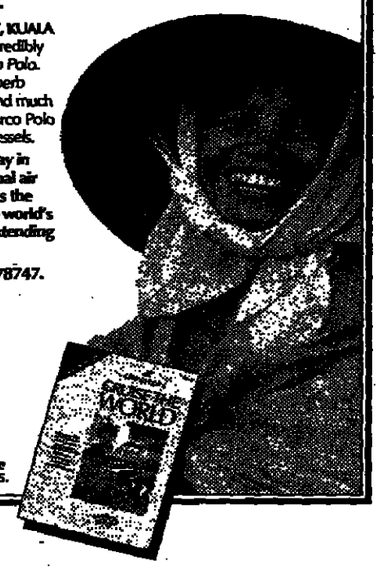
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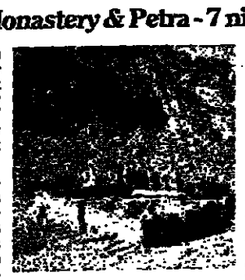
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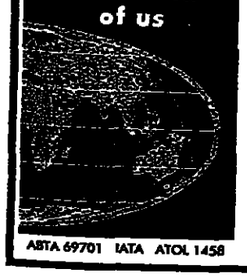
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DAYS OUT: Llama treks enable visitors to uncover the secrets of Thetford Forest's past

Take a walk with the animals

"The first thing you have to do," we were told, "is to forget the trees." As we were standing in the middle of 80 square miles of them, this was easier said than done. About as easy as ignoring the four llamas that were standing alongside us.

The llamas had seen it all before, because Bruce Wright, a Suffolk farmer, has been taking people on walks with them through Thetford Forest for more than a year. Now he has added an archaeological theme to the walks.

"What you have to remember," said Kate Sussams, the Breckland archeological officer, "is that before the forest was planted in 1922, this was all heathland. High Lodge Centre over there is now the Forestry Commission's visitor centre, but during the Second World War there was a prisoner-of-war camp here, and in the 1930s it was the site of a British labour camp to which unemployed men from the north of England were sent to work for three months before they could claim the dole. It was basically slave labour on forestry projects."

Miss Sussams's approach to archaeology is all-encompassing, treating it as a study of anything man-made. "Some people think archaeology as just about Bronze Age pottery and the like," she says, "but it's about much more."

On the walk that I joined, a small group took a three-hour tour of discovery through the forest, with a one-hour halt for a picnic lunch. As we walked, Miss Sussams explained her role in the Breckland archaeological survey — Breckland being the area of south Norfolk and north Suffolk in which Thetford Forest stands. The survey is run jointly by the respective county councils, with English Heritage assessing the archaeological importance of the area. "Farmers are not allowed to damage archaeological sites on their land," she said. "The trouble is that neither they nor we know where all those sites are yet, so part of my job is to find them."

Miss Sussams first visited Mr Wright's farm to see his devil's dyke, a Saxon earthworks believed to have been used for keeping cattle on high ground when grazing was impossible on the low-lying fens. But it wasn't cattle she found there; it was four llamas — Jose, Carlos, Pedro and Miguel — which Mr Wright had bought from a dealer in Snowdonia as part of a farming diversification plan.

From this visit came the idea of holding archaeological treks with llamas, with the visitors taking turns to lead the animals, which carry the food and wine.

> "A lump of earth by the path turned out to be a Bronze Age burial mound"

Being sensitive to any slight sound or movement, the animals are ideal nature walk companions. They stop long before a roe deer emerges from the undergrowth and runs across the path. The forest is home to four species of deer, red squirrels, woodlarks, nightjars and crossbills.

At one time, the area seethed with thousands of rabbits. Miss Sussams pointed out a raised bank: "It runs for five miles and is the boundary of an old rabbit warren," she said. "Rabbits were farmed commercially, a very lucrative business. Breckland became a notable rabbit centre and every parish had its own warren."

Walking down another forest track we paused beside a patch of seemingly nondescript trees. "In there," she told us, "it looks like a load of nothing, but then, post-medieval flint mines don't look very exciting to some people. Flint was an important material in this area."

The production of flints for guns and building purposes was a main source of income for the nearby town of Brandon in the 18th and 19th centuries, second only to warrening. The knappers produced 6,000 flints a day, and black Brandon flint was thought to be the best quality around, used in everything from Afghan muskets to decorating the Guild Hall in Norwich.

We were discovering that there is much more to Thetford Forest than meets the eye. Another lump of earth by the side of the path turned out to be a Bronze Age burial mound. We saw Thetford Warren Lodge, a 15th-century hunting lodge. "It originally had a turret," Miss Sussam explained, "and was home to the gamekeeper for Thetford Warren. From the top he could see for miles, but it also protected him against the poachers if they turned nasty. Now it's a scheduled ancient monument."

We finally made our way back down another track, which Miss Sussam said was a medieval sunken road. "Wherever you find a street called Hollow Way, Low Road or something like that, it is probably a sunken road. They were used to transport livestock. You have to imagine this track filled with hundreds of sheep or cattle on their way from East Anglia to the livestock markets in London."

Today it was filled with four llamas with empty panniers, and several humans with imaginations now full of treeless forests, Saxon ranches, Bronze Age barrows, rabbit rustlers, labour camps and East Anglian cattle drives.

Llamas may be alert, but archaeologists aren't bad either.

MIKE GERRARD

● *Archaeological llama treks cost £18, including lunch (vegetarians catered for with prior notice). The next trek is on Sunday, April 23. Details from Wellington Lodge Llama Trekking, Brandon Road, Northwold, near Thetford, Norfolk IP26 5NP (01842 878181).*

ROB HOWARTH



Bruce Wright with two of the llamas he uses for his treks. Visitors spend three hours exploring the forest — the llamas carry the picnic

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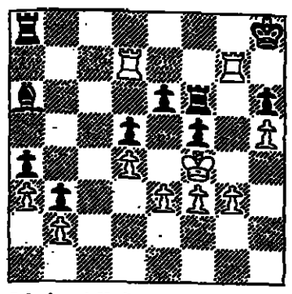
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CHESS

by Raymond Keene

Two Winning Moves from the games of Alexander Alekhine stimulated an immense postbag.

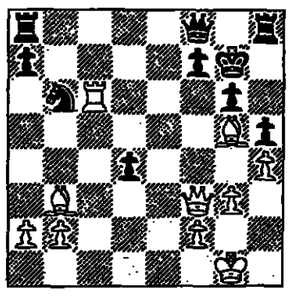
Winning Move, December 12
This position is from Alekhine-Yates, London, 1922. White has sacrificed a piece, an unusual occurrence in an endgame. How did he now finish off?



Solution: 1 Ke5! wins a rook, for if Black defends by moving either rook to f8, eg 1 . . . Rf8, then 2 Rh7+ Kg8 3 Rdg7 is mate.

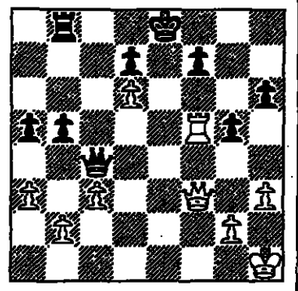
M.Fessey of Gwent and 11-year-old David Edwards of Surrey, among others, suggest that Black could try 1 Ke5 f4 and after 2 Kxf6, fxe3 with dangerous counterplay due to the passed pawn on e3. Unfortunately, this counterplay is cut short by 3 Rh7+ Kg8 4 Rdg7+ Kf8 and 5 Rh8 mate.

Winning Move, December 22
This position is a variation from the game Alekhine-Opocensky, Paris, 1925. All White's pieces are aimed menacingly at the black king, and he now has a chance to rip the defences away. Can you see how?



Solution: 1 Rxg5! hxg5 2 Qf6 and Black has no defence against the dual threats of Qh8 and Qe7.

W.Spanner of Seaford suggests that Black could meet 1 Rxg5 with 1 . . . f5 and then if 2 Rxf5, Qg8, defending the f8-square. However, after 1 Rxg5 f5, White mates quickly with 2 Qh5+, e.g. 2 . . . Qf7 3 Rg8, 2 . . . Kd8 3 Rg8 or 2 . . . Kf8 3 Qxh6+, with a very swift mate to follow.

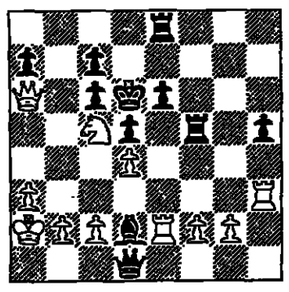


By Raymond Keene
This position is from the game Gaistner - Machelett, Germany 1994. The black king has been driven into the middle of the board, but is apparently still quite well protected. How did White show that this is not the case?

Send your answers on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 Bh8

Last week's winners: R Phillips, Warrington, Cheshire; E Kohlmorgen, Aldershot, Hants; A Hussain, Brixton, London



READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon on the right. The cartoon, from the Punch library, includes the contemporary caption.

The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption selected from those submitted:

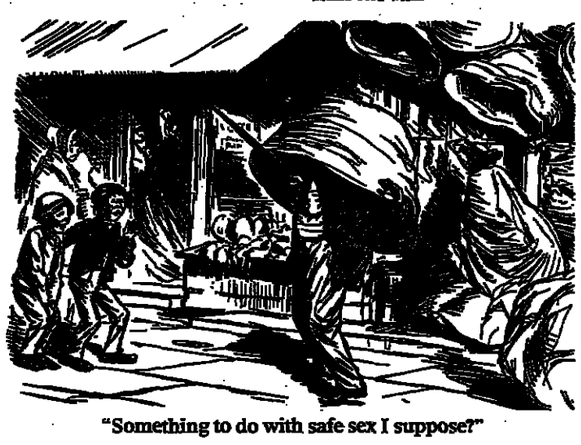
Caption suggestions, on a postcard please, should be addressed to: Cartoon caption 44, Weekend Games Page, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The editor's decision is final.

The closing date for entries is Wednesday, February 15.



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"Something to do with safe sex I suppose?"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by The Rev T. R. Lee, of Linton-on-Ouse, York

By Philip Howard

SNAVEL
a. A false navel
b. To steal
c. A sneak or beggar

STUDIOLO
a. A knuckle-duster
b. A private study
c. An artificial teaching language

UROBOROS
a. A circular snake
b. A wild East wind
c. Vegetarian

WISSENSCHAFT
a. Pursuit of knowledge
b. Shaft of a crossbow bolt
c. Ancestral folklore

Answers on page 22

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

THE most exciting hand in the Macallan Pairs tournament is described below. First, look at it from Zia Mahmood's point of view. He was playing with Omar Sharif; on his left was Bob Hamman and on his right Bobby Wolff. This was Zia's hand:

♠AQJ4 ♥J9832 ♦Q7 ♣K3

Zia was East and this was the auction: (South Dealer; Love All)

S	W	N	E
Hamman	Sharif	Wolff	Zia
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥(1)	Pass
3♣	Pass	6♦	?

(1) 'Fourth-suit forcing', asking for more information.

Hamman's bidding had shown that he had a hand of 12-16 points with at least ten cards in the minor suits. It seemed reasonable for Zia to double. That would ask for an 'unusual' lead, in this case clearly dummy's first suit. For example, if North-South's major suits were:

♠K10xx
♥Ax



♣xx
♥K

the declarer could get rid of one losing spade on dummy's ace of hearts. In other layouts it might have been possible for the declarer to pitch spades from dummy on his clubs. One thing was certain — a spade lead would give the defence their best chance of beating the contract.

So Zia doubled Six Diamonds. Hamman promptly redoubled, and it came back to Zia. What *should he do now?*.

Bear in mind the personalities — Hamman, rated number one player in the world, but currently only number two at the half-way stage of the 'Player of the Decade' ratings in the U.S.; Zia, leading the Player of the Decade ratings, and about the best at the poker aspects of bridge that I have come across.

Zia decided to pass Six Diamonds Redoubled. Sharif obediently led a spade, and this was Hamman's dummy play problem:

♠K1073
♥-
♦A109642
♣A108



♠-
♥AK7
♦KJ853
♣96542

Contract: Six Diamonds redoubled, by South.
Opening lead: ♠9

If you draw trumps (they are 2-0) you can count six diamond tricks in the North hand, three spade ruffs in the South hand and three top tricks — twelve in all. What about the overtrick? You can throw two clubs from dummy on the ace-king of hearts, and then play to set up a long club by ruffing twice in dummy. If you go through the play you will see you that you have to be careful with entries. If you draw trumps you only have two trumps left in hand, and although you can enter your hand twice with spade ruffs, you actually need three *entries — two to ruff out the clubs* and one to cash the long club. So the correct sequence of play is: ruff the spade, play a diamond to the ace and *cash the ace of clubs*. It doesn't matter if this is ruffed — you still have twelve tricks, as an extra trump is released for taking spade ruffs in hand.

Hamman surprisingly played the king of diamonds at trick two, thereby prematurely removing a vital entry to hand. After that he could only make twelve tricks. According to Zia, Hamman was in *such a state of euphoria on seeing* the dummy that for once his famed toughness deserted him. This was the full deal:

Dealer South — Love All

	♠K1073 ♥- ♦A109642 ♣A108	
♠98652 ♥Q10854 ♦- ♣QJ7		♠AQJ4 ♥J9632 ♦Q7 ♣K3
	♠- ♥AK7 ♦KJ853 ♣96542	

After the hand, Zia said he should have removed himself to Six Hearts when Hamman redoubled *Six Diamonds*. Obviously Hamman knew that Zia had doubled for a spade lead; hence his redouble advertised to the world that he could handle that lead. In fact Hamman's hand was improved by the double — it followed that his partner's spades were not going to be particularly strong, so the rest of his high cards were going to be in the right place.

Szwarc and Bompis sacrified in Six Hearts at another table and went three down, a good score against Six Diamonds. Despite the fact that a grand slam is a reasonable proposition on the deal, three North-South pairs did not advance beyond game. The contract was played in Six Diamonds doubled at three tables. Forrester was the only declarer who managed *his entries correctly to make* an overtrick.

The tournament was won by Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell (U.S.); Szwarc and Bompis (France) were second.

● Michael Rosenberg has won the 1994 American Contract Bridge League Player of the Year title. This is awarded to the player who does best in the four biggest American Contract Bridge League tournaments (the Spring, Summer and Fall nationals, and the Grand National).



THIS week we look at several tried and tested cheats to increase your gaming pleasure. Apogee Software's excellent "Raptor" is a vertically scrolling shoot-'em-up which revels in plenty of tension and terrific sound effects for one so slight. The more you destroy the more you earn and, ultimately, the more you can upgrade your deadly hardware.

However, affording the best can be a time-consuming process and you have to be dedicated. Instead, you can help yourself to forbidden funds with any Hex editor, such as PC Tools and XTree Gold.

Load then save the game and quit to DOS. With the Hex editor edit the file CHAR0000.FIL (or similar) and tweak the values of lines 24,25 and 26 to read FF FF FF. Reload the game in the normal way, restart the saved game and suddenly everything is affordable.

There are several "A-Train" cheats to keep you on track if you're having difficulties making the rail empire run in profit. The really lazy can play the complex and profitable demo scenario by starting the demo game and saving it immediately. Exit to DOS then reload the game, resuming the saved game.

If you run into trouble during any game and wouldn't blush at an illicit back-hander worth $1 million, hold down Control and Shift simultaneously, then type: cheater-cheaterwimp. You can try the cheat more than once, but it may later fail to produce the spondulicks or, at worst, crash you out of the game.

Finally on the subject of cheats, we all know there's nothing like nobbling the goalie to improve one's chances of football success. Gremlin's "Premiere Manager" is so realistic you can also play around with your goalie, powering him up to be practically invincible rather than a butter-fingered klutz.

Once in the game, from the main menu choose the phone and dial 753423. You will see that your trusty keeper changes his name to Gremlin with an enviable skill rating of 99 per cent — the equivalent of Clingfilming your goal mouth to keep out balls.

US Gold's "Hurricanes" for the Sega Mega Drive is a novel spin on football games. There isn't a proper pitch in sight, as this is a platform game in which you dribble your ball until booting it at anything which moves. It's simple but addictive.

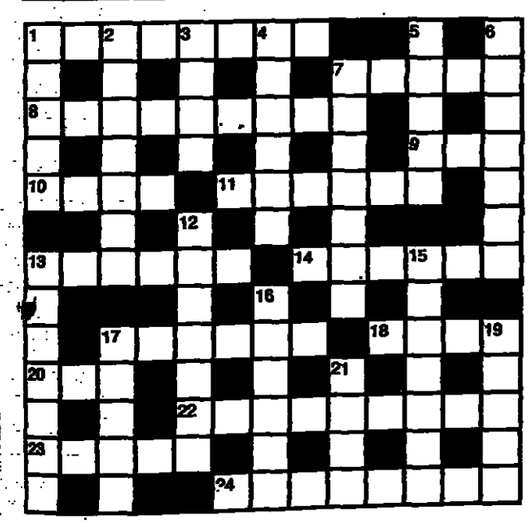
On CD-Rom, "Saturday Night Live" is a celebration of the first 20 years of the cult American television comedy show, which was a breeding ground for many of the country's funniest names. The collection of highlights includes 50 QuickTime films, behind-the-scenes minutiae and musical contributions from *Wayne's World*, *The Blues Brothers* and more.

It is clearly aimed at a home market in America. Presumably they thought they had nothing to lose by launching it over here as well, even though Britain never took the series and most of the references will probably go over our heads. If anything, much of the comedy seems fairly tame. The clips of characters and comedy scenes aren't very satisfying. Both appear to be disembodied and the format hardly does justice to the snatches of humour.

Please keep all your news, views and gaming tips coming. You should address your correspondence to: Computer Games, Weekend, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. You may also fax us directly on 0171-729 6791.

TIM WAPSHOTT

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 393

ACROSS
1 Capacity to float (8)
7 Wild (of animal) (5)
8 Accurately (captured appearance) (2,3,4)
9 Joker; shake (3)
10 Close by (4)
11 Pay attention (6)
13 Support for overhead workmen (6)
14 Carry, get across (6)
17 Chronological records (6)
18 Refusing to hear (4)
20 Grab; receptacle (3)
22 Thoroughly well (2,3,4)
23 Group of species (5)
24 An adolescent (8)

DOWN
1 Conductor's stick (5)
2 Eight-sided building (7)
3 *Top of eg pyramid* (4)
4 Medical treatment centre (6)
5 Haggard (5)
6 Capricious, flirtatious (7)
7 To garland (7)
12 Assisi saint (7)
13 Gum resin, makes yellow pigment (7)
15 Swinging round (esp. of wind) (7)
16 Cheerful, carefree (6)
17 Severe distress (5)
19 Bed-of-nails practitioner (5)
21 A non-flowering plant (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 392

ACROSS: 1 Cenotaph 5 Calf 8 Crimp 9 Inkling 11 Pie 12 Moonshine 13 Toucan 15 Sought 18 Misguided 19 Dot 20 Cortege 21 Asian 22 Heed 23 Mechanic
DOWN: 1 Cockpit 2 Naive 3 Tape-measure 4 Prison 6 Abiding 7 Fugue 10 Kiss of death 14 Upsurge 16 Titanic 17 Adhere 18 Micah 19 Deign

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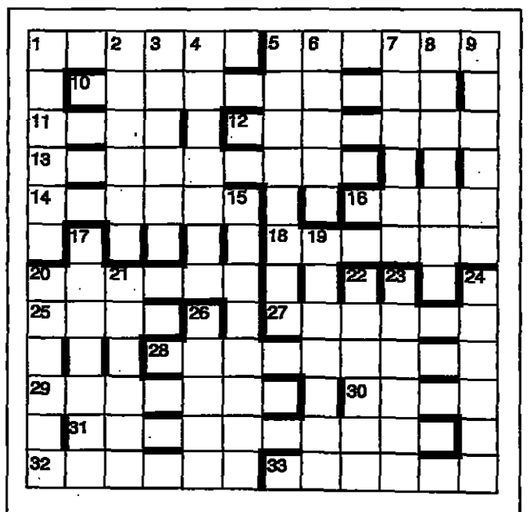
Answers to the eight asterisked clues need to be Playfair encoded before entry into the diagram. All 36 clues have one or more consecutive superfluous words in them, the initial letters of which will help make the Playfair square. A simple substitution will also be required.

A standard Playfair square contains 25 different letters (omitting J) in an order to be deduced. To encode a word its letters must first be split into pairs, eg HE IG HT. Each pair is then treated as the opposite corners of a rectangle within the square, the other two corners being the coded form. Thus, in the example, IG gives SE and HT gives EP. If a pair are in the same row or column, the letters immediately to he right or below (or where a letter is the last in the row or column, the first letter in the same) give the coded form. Thus HEIGHT gives CGSEEP.

C	E	G	R	H
K	L	N	U	M
B	T	W	O	P
X	I	S	F	A
Q	V	Y	D	Z

ACROSS
* 1. I'm often upset by you, say, making glimpse (6)
* 5. House surgeon , left in charge of the people (6)
10. When it's Christmas one priest takes present to code breaker (10)
11. Distressed cry as Yard smuggle narcotics (4)
12. This famished young fish bolts back vegetable (7)
13. Doctor takes four "Fantasy" for wild experiences (9) . . .
14. . . . experiences transcendental states tripping (6)
16. Tandoori oven cooked filling of banana for curry's accompaniment (4)
18. Gracefully thin? Tofu leftovers could be for this! (6)
20. Enraged snakes to the East? *Pass silently* (6)
25. Leach's gulls return from Tehuantepec — that's Mexico (4)
27. Unstable young pig has extremely pongy trough (6)
28. Spurs refines act for new cult (9)
29. Snouts? Non smoker has bad luck, fanlight which doesn't open (7)
30. Heartless sadistic Sheik punished one from another following (4)
31. Not tippling excessively at Do, merely dancing (10)
* 32. Writhing snake wrapped around five Ethiopian boys (6)
* 33. Navy bigwig meets sailor's old woman for romantic intrigue (6)

DOWN
* 1. Distracted society has a tendency to traipse about (6)
2. We look for eggs around most green fields (6)
3. *Fanfares echo about Elsinore's* offices (6)
4. Librarian knows "Ten Famous homes" (7)
5. Freshers hose steps outside University (8)
6. Here some slumber safely *through a sea crossing?* (5)
7. Note in telephone exchange taken up. It's to do with hospitality! (6)
8. Bishop unfortunately imparted endless misgivings (7)
* 9. Warwickshire's opener has to score 250 runs against Waugh, for example (6)
15. Cooking could make my steel girder run here (8)
17. "In abundance" or " ample about " (7)
19. Materials 5 and 18 could comfortably make (7)
* 20. Marrow sliced, cooked and eaten (6)
21. Azed takes about a day making flower quiz (6)
22. Bottoms — Pinching one shows ungracious prejudices (6)
23. Aintree tip's ahead, just (6)
* 24. Most of leg shown to a repressed lot up North's tartish! (6)
26. Each student takes exam about "Forte" — a musical symbol (1,4)



LISTENER CROSSWORD No. 3292

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

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POSTCODE .....



PRIZES: Book tokens worth £50 will go to the winner. The two runners-up will each win £20 book tokens.

ADDRESS: Readers should cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above, to The *Listener* Crossword 3292, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, February 23.

Solution to No. 3289: Prosaic? by Le Gallois

T	I	T	U	D	O	I	L	O	V	E	T	O	L	O
L	E	R	N	E	M	O	R	O	U	L	A	C	I	S
A	R	E	S	P	I	T	E	S	L	I	G	U	R	E
O	G	E	E	O	T	A	L	E	G	A	L	L	A	M
N	E	S	T	S	E	M	I	P	A	L	M	A	R	Y
A	O	P	E	E	R	A	G	E	R	Y	A	R	D	S
O	R	R	A	A	N	G	I	N	A	L	I	D	E	E
T	G	A	R	D	E	N	O	F	C	Y	R	U	S	L
N	I	D	E	A	L	A	M	O	R	T	T	R	E	F
O	C	T	A	L	C	T	E	L	E	D	U	S	X	I
S	P	E	R	T	H	E	D	D	E	O	A	T	E	N
A	U	R	N	B	U	R	I	A	L	U	U	R	S	A
E	R	R	O	R	S	A	C	R	A	G	G	E	D	M
R	I	A	L	A	E	T	I	G	E	H	E	D	G	Y
Y	M	E	U	S	R	U	P	O	T	Y	R	E	T	S

Unclued lights are all works by Sir Thomas Browne: *Religio Medici* (the source of the quotation), *Garden of Cyrus*, *Urn Burial* and *Vulgar Errors*.

1. Extraneous words = Sir Thomas Browne
2. Extraneous letters — NAT: London sixteen five
3. Misprints = died sixteen eighty two
viz
1. across 1,15,36,44,45 down 1,2,3,9,17,18,20,23,35,46
2. across 11,13,18,24,30,31,37,39,42,54,57 down 5,7,22,26,27,40,41,47,50
3. across 14,16,19,22,25,28,38,51,55,56 down 4,8,21,29,32,34,43,48,49,52

The winner was G.M. Neighbour, of Altham Road, Hatch End, Middlesex. The runners-up were M.E.E. Harrison, of Frohburgstrasse, Zurich, Switzerland, and Bob Newman, of Chartwell Place, Epsom, Surrey.

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Silent star earns a rave review from Lord Montagu

Page 3

CAR 95

All eyes on Tyrrell's search for winning formula



Page 10

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11 1995

Jonathan Prynn on how a convicted drink-driver can win back that lost licence

The fast lane back from the ban

SIMON WALKER



Moment of truth: a roadside breath test can lead to a conviction that costs dearly. A government self-help scheme that gets banned drink-drivers back on the road earlier also helps to cut the bills

Hundreds of convicted drink-drivers have taken a short cut to getting their licences back by attending hard-hitting courses which hammer home the anguish of accident victims.

The offenders undergo a programme which impresses the simple but crushing message that they increase the risk of death or injury to themselves and others every time they start up a car after a drink.

Participants might have to watch harrowing videos made by the families of people killed by drink-drivers, which are meant to shock and shame. They may be made to feel the agony of a bereaved parent by playing the role of one whose child has been killed by a drink-driver. Health education workers describe in graphic detail the debilitating effects of long-term alcohol abuse. Policemen and lawyers also give talks.

Offenders must demonstrate they are intent on mending their ways by attending every session. If they do not, they risk being failed and their enrolment money wasted.

The reward for enduring these government-approved schemes is a cut of up to 25 per cent in the period of disqualification and a discount of up to 40 per cent on the heavy insurance bills they face when they get back behind the wheel.

The courses are the latest Department of Transport weapon against drink-driving, which is still responsible for more than 500 road deaths a year, about one in seven of all road fatalities.

This week Steven Norris, the road safety minister, declared the courses, launched in 1993 but still run on an experimental basis, a success. By the end of the decade, they are likely to be available throughout the country. They may be made compulsory for persistent offenders.

For the past two years, 21 magistrates' courts in England and Wales and two sheriff courts in Scotland have had the legal power to offer offenders the option of attending the courses at 19 approved centres. More than 180 courses have been run.

By the end of December, 11,725 drink-drivers had been convicted in participating courts since the start of the experiment. Of those, 4,206 (36 per cent) were offered the opportunity to attend a course and 1,254 (11 per cent) took up the offer.

The courses are typically attended by 15 to 20 offenders, the overwhelming majority of whom are men. They usually last for 20 to 30 hours, spread over five or six sessions, and cost between £50 and £200, which offenders must pay out of their own pockets.

According to government figures released last week, the courses are having a dramatic effect on the attitudes of those who attend. At the start, most showed an alarming level of ignorance about the physical and mental effects of drinking and the legal limit for drivers (80 milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood).

Only 32 per cent scored above 70 per cent in alcohol knowledge tests. Multiple-choice questions included: "How much beer drunk in two hours would put an average man at the legal limit?" Possible answers range from one and a half pints — the correct answer — to five pints, way over the limit.

By the end of the courses, a sufficient level of knowledge was achieved by 86 per cent of participants. About four in ten said they intended to cut their intake of alcohol.

Commenting on the figures, Mr Norris said: "Rehabilitation courses offer a real opportunity to change an offender's attitude before he or she drives again. These findings show the experimental scheme is succeeding in this."

By the end of each course, it is hoped those taking part will never feel tempted to drink and drive again. No research has yet been carried out into reconviction rates, as most of the courses have been running for only a year. However,

Continued on page 2, col 5

PENALTIES AROUND THE WORLD

- **United States:** legal limits range from 80 to 100 milligrams per 100 millilitres of blood. Typical disqualification for first offender is six months. Many states require offenders to attend rehabilitation courses, which could reduce disqualification by up to three quarters or permit driving to work and church only.
- **France:** 70mg, spot fines up to £350, disqualification for three months to life and up to two years' jail.
- **Germany:** 80 mg, more than 110mg is punishable by fine of one to two months' wages for first offence with at least six months' disqualification. Maximum one year jail. Rehabilitation course can reduce disqualification.
- **Austria:** 80mg. Maximum police fine £3,000 or court fine up to £100,000. Six months' disqualification for a first offence. Rehabilitation courses available.
- **Ireland:** 70mg, maximum fine of IR£1,000 and mandatory driving ban of 12 months. Maximum six months' jail.
- **Sweden:** 20mg, maximum fine 120 days' wages. Twelve-month disqualification for levels up to 150mg, three years for more than 150mg. Maximum prison sentence two months, longer when there are casualties.

Women start to cut up rough

Helen Mound on a big rise in female car crime

Something sinister is taking place on Britain's roads: women drivers, still regarded by insurance companies as lesser risks than men, are turning into law-breakers. The number jailed for motoring crimes has doubled in the past year.

Official figures show a striking increase in female motoring offences. Most alarming is the rise in the use of violence. Last year, a middle-aged Berkshire woman was bound over after tangling with another woman driver. A girl was fined for criminal damage when she used a wheelbrace to smash the lights on a male driver's BMW. And a teenager claimed she was attacked by an older female driver in a supermarket car park.

In each case, tempers flared for trivial reasons such as a squabble over a parking space or queue-jumping, resulting in "road rage".

The AA recently identified the phenomenon in a survey. Rayner Peett, of the AA, said: "Fifty-four per cent of female drivers admitted acts of aggression. When resorting to violence, though, most turned against their victim's vehicle. Only 1 per cent admitted to physical violence."

The number of women jailed for motoring-related crimes has doubled in the past year, according to a monthly prison service document. That would account for at least 100 of the 1,866 women currently in jail. Their offences include drink-driving, careless and dangerous driving, and driving while disqualified.

Overall, 123,425 motoring offences were committed by women in 1993, nearly a 10 per cent increase on 1991. However, 1,391,341 offences were recorded against men. Women account for almost half the number of motorists and more than half (51%) of all drivers under 35.

Sophie, a 26-year-old designer from Cambridge, admits to fits of violent aggression when upset by another driver: "I'm not afraid to speak my mind to a woman, but I'd never confront a male. I'd make sure I got even, though."

Writing expletives in lipstick on the other car's windscreen, letting tyres down and removing wipers are among her favourite tactics.

One example from the next generation of female drivers was revealed last month. A girl from Plymouth told police she led on a 25-mile, 100mph chase: "Not bad driving for a 13-year-old, was it?"

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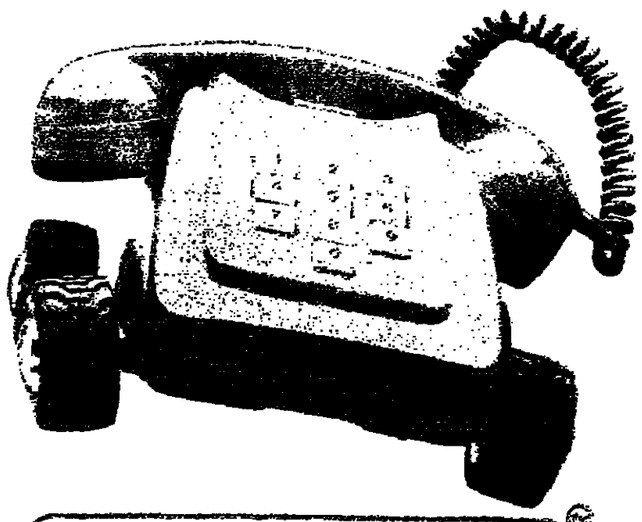
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Bad drivers are not all speed-crazed youths — there are plenty of dangerous old duffers imperilling our progress

Dr Brian diagnoses a non-runner for nitwits

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION



Peter Barnard

Here is a salutary coincidence. About 15 minutes after I heard on the car radio that Dr Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, was introducing a Pass Plus scheme to cut accidents among young drivers, a man aged about 60 who had been driving on the crown of the road in front of me suddenly decided to turn, not right, but left. No signal, no nothing.

He just missed a cyclist riding along inside him, who nonetheless fell off his bicycle as the incompetent duffer sailed across his bows. That helps to explain why my welcome for Pass Plus is muted. It will have only a limited effect and tackles only one of the problems.

The reason why drivers under 21 are four times more likely to make an insurance claim than drivers aged 40 is not that all, or even most, young drivers are mad.

The statistics are bolstered by a minority of young drivers who persistently have accidents. The chances of these nitwits forking out nearly £100 to get extra tuition (the scheme is voluntary) are slim going on non-existent.

This does not negate the case for trying to do something about them, but I believe we should also be doing something about the people who read this column. Heck, no, I don't mean that. I mean people of the same age as the ones who read this column, but who do not read it because they are not as bright as the ones who do. There, that's better.

The trouble with middle-aged and elderly drivers is that, however inadequate the test they took, they have forgotten most of the things they learned in order to pass it. They — we — don't signal properly, don't drive at a safe distance, and so on.

So, stressing that I do not have shares in a driving school, there ought to be an incentive scheme whereby people who signed up every ten years for one of the two-hour refresher courses that the bigger schools provide would have this recorded on their licences with a consequent reduction in their insurance premiums, the same incentive that Dr Mawhinney has arranged for young drivers.

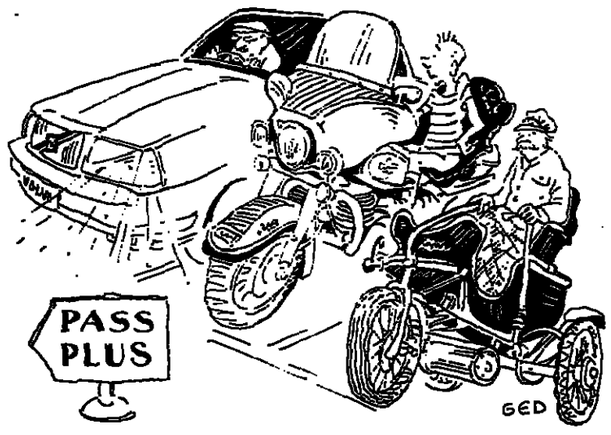
I think the take-up would be much higher in the older age group, because whereas cars and their related costs are about the only big item in a young person's budget, mortgaged, middle-aged parents are more alert to saving money.

During the nationwide firework celebrations that launched this column three weeks ago I mentioned my antipathy to Volvo drivers and offered a bottle of champagne for the best defence of them and another for the best attack on them.

The scale of your response has proved that everyone has a view where Volvos are concerned but you have also forced me to rethink my bias because Volvo drivers have something that makes all their sins forgiveable: a terrific sense of humour.

One bottle of bubbly must go to Deborah Bragg, of Langley Marsh, Norwich, who says: "Of course we sit in the middle of the road (jumbo jets always taxi down the centre of the taxiway) and what on earth is the point of signalling at junctions when you haven't actually made up your mind where you want to go?"

Deborah says the invincibility of Volvos is proved by a recent head-on in which "my armour-plating was merely scratched whereas the make of my opponent was unrecognisable, even as I generously towed him



home". Do we believe a word of this? I make no comment.

The rest of the bubbly goes to Philip Kendrick of Eastham, Wirral, on Merseyside, who used to be Pc Philip Kendrick until he encountered a Volvo. It was piloted by "a seemingly model Volvo driver in cloth cap, grey anorak and patented myopia" who "turned across my path, swiping me off my police motorcyle at 40 miles per hour."

Philip then had to hobble after the driver, who had stopped to collect his wife, and was oblivious to the fact that he had been in an accident.

"This single act of motor vandalism brought my police career to an end after only six years" Philip writes.

I have invented a third prize, the Volvo humour award, and will be sending the company's latest car catalogue (if I can lift it) to B. R. J. Simpson of Gosport, Hants. Mr Simpson was so shocked by my item that "I nearly dropped my sandwich on to the steering wheel." He explains the little-known fact that the permanently lit sidelights on Volvos are so that "the hoi poloi have time to step back and admire the car." Oh I see. Thanks to all who wrote.

'Jolly bad luck – that's £550'

John Wellman on how it took ten hours of labour to replace a part supposed never to fail


TONY WHITE

Loser in the design lottery: the author in a Renault 25. His own was remarkably trouble-free until a minor fault required a major operation

The words of the service manager at my garage did not sound doom-laden when he pronounced: "It's the heating matrix, sir." What I did not realise was that the glittering finger of fate had paused above me; but instead of a winner, it had picked a victim in the "lousy design" lottery.

The heating matrix is not much to look at. An oblong metal construction 12in by 6in by 2in, and shaped like a small radiator, it provides warm air to heat the car. They are supposed never to go wrong, so manufacturers snuggle them deep in the car where they can remain unmolested until the vehicle is scrapped. If they do fail, trouble and cost follow.

My venerable Renault 25 TX, with nearly 75,000 on the clock, had been almost completely trouble-free during its life. Comfortable and reliable, the alarm bells rang only mildly when the heater stopped working and the temperature gauge refused to move, but then after 10 minutes driving sprang straight into the red. Leaking hose in the cooling system, I thought.

The technician at my Renault garage sounded mournfully like a doctor diagnosing a long, painful and exotic illness. "About the worst thing that could have gone. Most unusual. Jolly bad luck."

The price of the heating matrix itself was £57.50. The total cost of the transplant, however, was £555.39, including value-added tax. This is because it took 10.5 hours work to get the old one out and put the new one in.

Instead of simply opening the bonnet, unscrewing the thing and bolting another one in its place, the mechanics had to dismantle virtually the whole dashboard, remove most of its innards and, keyhole-surgery-style, negotiate the matrix out through the glove compartment. The work took a couple of days and the garage loaned me a car while the major surgery progressed.

The final bill also included coolant, a new clip for something or other and £2.38 for a bulb in a clock which had gone but had previously not been worth removing the dashboard for.

What I had not realised is that the heating matrix ranks alongside the sunroof and the dashboard itself as one of the most difficult parts of a car to replace.

Renault's head office in Britain confirmed that 10.5 hours was the correct amount of labour time needed to replace the matrix on my model. However, he pointed out that on Renault's latest model, the Laguna, the same part could be whipped out and replaced in 1.5 hours. It is now accessible through the engine rather than the glove compartment.

What does the motor industry say about all this? John Singer, technical director of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, noted: "Normally, the bits you need to get at on a regular basis are easy to get to but there is always going to be the odd one which is difficult."

Roy Staunton, head of technical advice for the AA, said: "Very rarely do you have a problem with the heater matrix. They normally last the lifetime of the car. I know Renault had a few problems on the 25 with them. Yes, they are a devil of a job to get to."

Renault said: "There have been isolated cases [of faults in the heating matrix] before but it is not an endemic problem."

Should anybody in the same boat have any thoughts of carrying out the work themselves, a final warning from Mr Staunton. "With its engine management systems, onboard computers and catalytic converters, the modern car is beyond the scope of most DIY mechanics."

Additional research by Robin Barnwell

THE AA'S GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● **LONDON**

A406 North Circular Rd, Upper Edmonton: road width reduced on the Lea Valley Viaduct.
A219 Putney Bridge: reduced to one lane each way for repairs.
A214 Trinity Rd, Wandsworth: temporary lights at junction with Burntwood Lane cause regular delays, especially northbound in mornings until end of March.
A316 Twickenham Bridge, near Richmond: down to one lane each way for reconstruction work.
A110 Windmill Hill, Enfield: roadworks at junction with Church St — down to one lane westbound.
A501 Kings Cross one-way system: major work from Monday. First stage will be overnight with lane closures. Then 24-hour restrictions — long delays expected.
A1 East Finchley: major repairs in two locations — lane restrictions on Falloden Way and Lyttleton Rd — cause regular delays.
A3 Kingston Bypass: southbound down to one lane between Shannons Corner and New Malden exit slip. From 9pm Friday until February 27. Severe delays anticipated.

● **SOUTH EAST**

M25 Surrey J7-8: contraflow causes regular delays and affects traffic joining from M23 northbound.
M25 Surrey J10-11: major widening work with contraflow.
A3 Guildford: contraflow between Abbotswood and Cathedral interchange — expect delays especially near A322 Dennis slip road.
A329 Bracknell, Berkshire: roadworks at Met Office roundabout (junction with the A322/A3095/B3022) until June.
A27 Chichester Bypass, Sussex: contraflow between Westhampnett and Whyke roundabouts until May.
A3020 Cowes: temporary lights on Newport Rd at junction with Three Gates Rd for roundabout construction until end of February.
A303 Hampshire: closed overnight between Bullington and Andover from 8pm to 6am for bridge repairs on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Also closed 11pm to 6am on Friday.

● **SOUTH WEST**

M4 Avon J20-21: major roadworks affecting both carriageways.
M32 Avon J1-2: lane restrictions both ways for bridge work — peak time delays.
M5 Gloucestershire J11-12: contraflow in place until September.
M5 Devon near J27 (Tiverton): contraflow and northbound entry slip road closed.
A419 Swindon: contraflow between Turnpike roundabout and A361 junction, with slip road onto B4141 Hyde Rd closed until end of March.
A3074 Cornwall: temporary lights between St Ives and Carbis Bay. St Ives-bound traffic should use the Coach Rd which is signposted at Lelant.
A3029 Bristol: Merchants Rd closed in Cumberland Basin System at Junction Lock Bridge causing knock-on delays on Anchor Rd and Cumberland Rd until March.

● **MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA**

M6 West Midlands J4a-6: major work with contraflow until March.
M5 West Midlands J3-4 (South-west of Birmingham): various lane closures for barrier and lighting work, with additional restrictions sometimes overnight.
A500 Stoke-on-Trent: closed over weekend between Hanford and City Rd interchange from 7pm today to 6am Monday. Diversions.
A1M near Blyth, Notts: new contraflow between Harworth and A614 until March.
A38 north of Derby: major work starting on Little Eaton Bypass with lane restrictions and contraflow.
A52 Nottingham Ring Rd: major roadworks between Dunkirk and Nottingham Knight until April.
A45 Stonebridge, West Midlands: flyover construction at A452 junction and widening between M42 J6 and Stonebridge Island — (40mph limit and lane closures).

● **NORTH**

M6 Cheshire J20-21A: roadworks continue near Thelwall Viaduct.
M62 West Yorkshire J25-J26 (Brighouse/Chain Bar): lane closures with contraflow to follow. Westbound entry slip closed at J25. Work continues until March 24.
M18 South Yorkshire J3-4 (Doncaster Area): major reconstruction — lane restrictions and contraflow expected soon until April.
M57 Merseyside J1 (Tarbock Island): roadworks and lane closures at roundabout junction with the M62, with additional restrictions at weekends until April.
M62 Humberside J34-35 (Whitley Bridge/Langham): contraflow with two lanes each way and eastbound entry slip road at J34 closed.
A61 Leeds, West Yorkshire: ongoing width restrictions at Crown Point Bridge for improvements.

● **WALES**

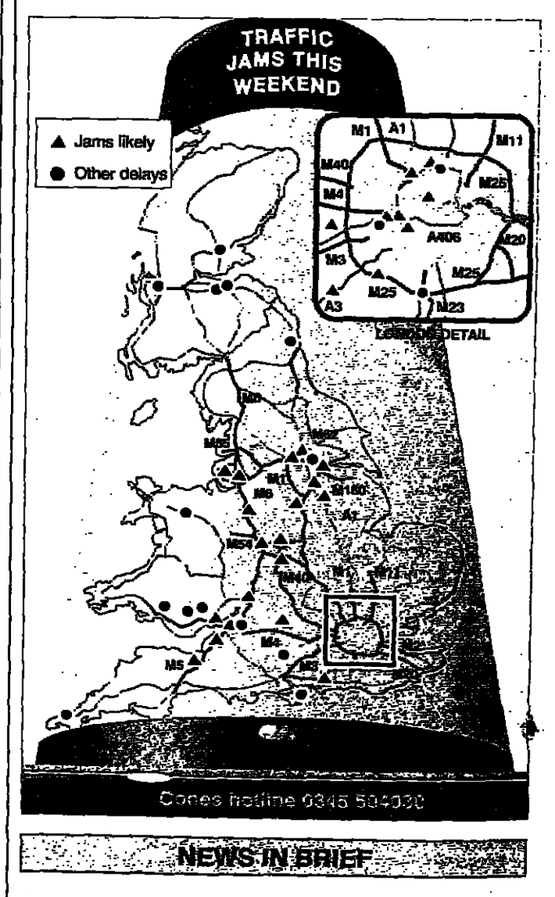
Wales take on England at Cardiff Arms Park next Saturday. The following closures apply: Westgate Street closed between Park St and Castle St junctions, Womanby St, Quay St, Guildhall Place, Scott Rd and part of King Edward 7th Ave — these closures will be implemented between 11am and 6pm.
M4 Gwent J23-22: lane restrictions and contraflow for widening between Magor and Rogiet for construction of second Severn crossing until June.
A472 Pontypool: demolition works on Pontymoile Gyratory with lane restrictions and temporary lights affecting Rockhill Rd especially.
A5 Maerdy, Clwyd: improvements continue at Glyn bends. Various restrictions including temporary lights at times and short-term closures until end July.
A465 West Glamorgan, between Llandarcy and Aberdulais: contraflow on Saltings viaduct for resurfacing. Long delays.

● **SCOTLAND**

M90 Tayside J8-J9: contraflow in operation for roadworks.
M8 Lothian J1 (Newbridge): various restrictions between J1 and Edinburgh City Bypass as motorway is under construction.
Edinburgh: width restrictions on High St between the North and South bridges until end of June.
A741 Renfrew Rd, Paisley: closed northbound for roadworks, contraflow southbound, delays expected peak-times.

● **NORTHERN IRELAND**

A6 Co Londonderry: lights on Glenshane Rd, Cashel for resurfacing.
A37 Limavady, Co Londonderry: temporary lights on Broad Rd for resurfacing until April.



NEWS IN BRIEF

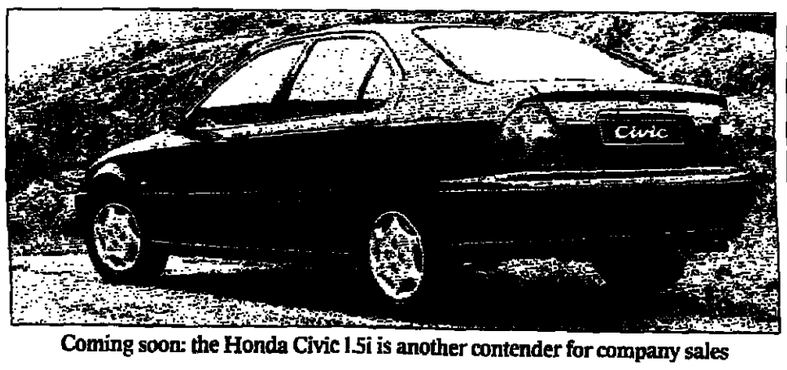
Rover revs up assault on fleet market

PLANS to increase dramatically the number of cars Rover sells to business drivers have prompted a speed-up in the launch of the company's next generation models (Maurice Glover writes).

Pressure to boost sales to the fleet market by up to 50 per cent has brought forward the launch campaign for the new 400 range by a month. That means details of the most significant Rover volume car to be pitched against Ford and Vauxhall will now be available at the end of next month — just after the Honda Civic, jointly developed with the 400 and another contender in the burgeoning fleet market, reaches the showrooms.

Over the past five months, buyers for the country's biggest fleets have seen and driven some of the cars Rover hopes will account for 120,000 medium-class sales next year. Their "positive" response is said to have guaranteed future fleet sales.

"We're sticking to our on-sale date of May 16, but our orders are to start telling the public that the Mondeo or Cavalier no longer have to be regarded as the natural company car choices," said a spokesman. "Rover is now producing an alternative which is equally competitive but also offers prestige." Developed on a platform shared with the Civic, the 400 is almost identical in size to the market-leading Ford Mondeo. Initially, the £11,000 to £18,000 range will be offered in five-door form, with the new 1.4 and 1.6-litre K-series engines. Two-litre petrol and diesel engines will be available in autumn, and there will be four-door saloons next February.



Coming soon: the Honda Civic 1.5i is another contender for company sales

HAVING a competitor in the medium sector will allow Rover to mount a second push for company sales when it reveals new three- and five-door 200 models at the London Motor Show in October. Designed to compete more effectively with the Escort and Astra, these will share power units with the 400.

Honda is also taking an aggressive marketing stance with its new Civic five-door. Despite having twin airbags, high-level specification and a two-year warranty, the lead-in 1.4i model's price of £11,495 undercuts the Escort LX by £245. The 1.5i, which claims diesel economy with a petrol engine, is £640 less than the Escort TDLX at £11,795.

BACK FROM THE BAN

Continued from page 1

course organisers say that if good intentions are converted into changes in behaviour, the number of drink-drivers on Britain's roads should soon start to fall.

Trevor Groom, director of the Bromley Alcohol Advisory Service, one of the 19 approved course organisers, says those attending are often relieved to meet people in the same predicament. "There is a therapeutic and self-help component as people get to know each other. There is a feel-good factor."

Once successfully completed, the courses bring more tangible benefits. In the case of a three-year disqualification, completion could bring a driver back on the roads nine months earlier than otherwise — a huge gain for somebody dependent on driving to make their living.

Several insurers also offer discounts for people who complete the courses. Typically, motorists with drink-driving convictions can expect to see their premiums rise by about 50 per cent after disqualification.

However, according to John Brockman, of brokers W.A. Ringrose in Barkingside, Essex, at least one company, Gan Insurance Group, and one Lloyd's syndicate will quote significant reductions for drivers who can prove they have successfully completed a rehabilitation course. Another insurer, Insurance GB, has said it will look favourably on successful course participants.

In some cases, the savings could be as much as 40 per cent. For example, a 33-year-old man living in Essex, driving a 1993 Ford Escort 1400 and with a maximum no-claims record, would save up to £157 on fully comprehensive cover.

A 43-year-old man living in Newcastle upon Tyne, without any no-claims bonus and driving a 1990 1342cc Rover 213, would benefit from a £197 discount for fully comprehensive cover. A 27-year-old Portsmouth man with two years no-claims bonus driving a Vauxhall Cavalier SRi 1800, and seeking third party, fire and theft cover, could save up to £76.

New MG unveiled

Only 120 dealers will sell the new MGF sports car which will be unveiled next month at the Geneva Motor Show. Rover is planning a separate network to stock the roadster as part of the move to achieve a new identity for the marque which has suffered from a chequered recent history. The MGF is the first all-new MG sports car since 1980 when the MGB was killed off.

Winning performance

The winner of our trip to the International Performance Car Show this weekend at Olympia, London, was Christopher Drew from Purley, Surrey. He wins a night at the Radisson Vanderbilt Hotel in Kensington, a copy of the video, Porsche — *the Racing Legend*, worth £19.99, and the *1995 Mini A-Z Great Britain Road Atlas*. Ten runners-up also win two tickets to the show as well as the video and atlas. Tickets for the show, which features a range of fast cars, cost £7.50, or £3.50 for under-15s. Full details of the show's opening times are available on 081-744 1585.

Electric cars on grid

The first motor race for electric cars is on August 28 at Mallory Park in Leicestershire and will be the first round of an international series in the Electric-Solar World Cup. The battery-powered cars should be capable of 140mph with some cars developing 400 brake horse power.

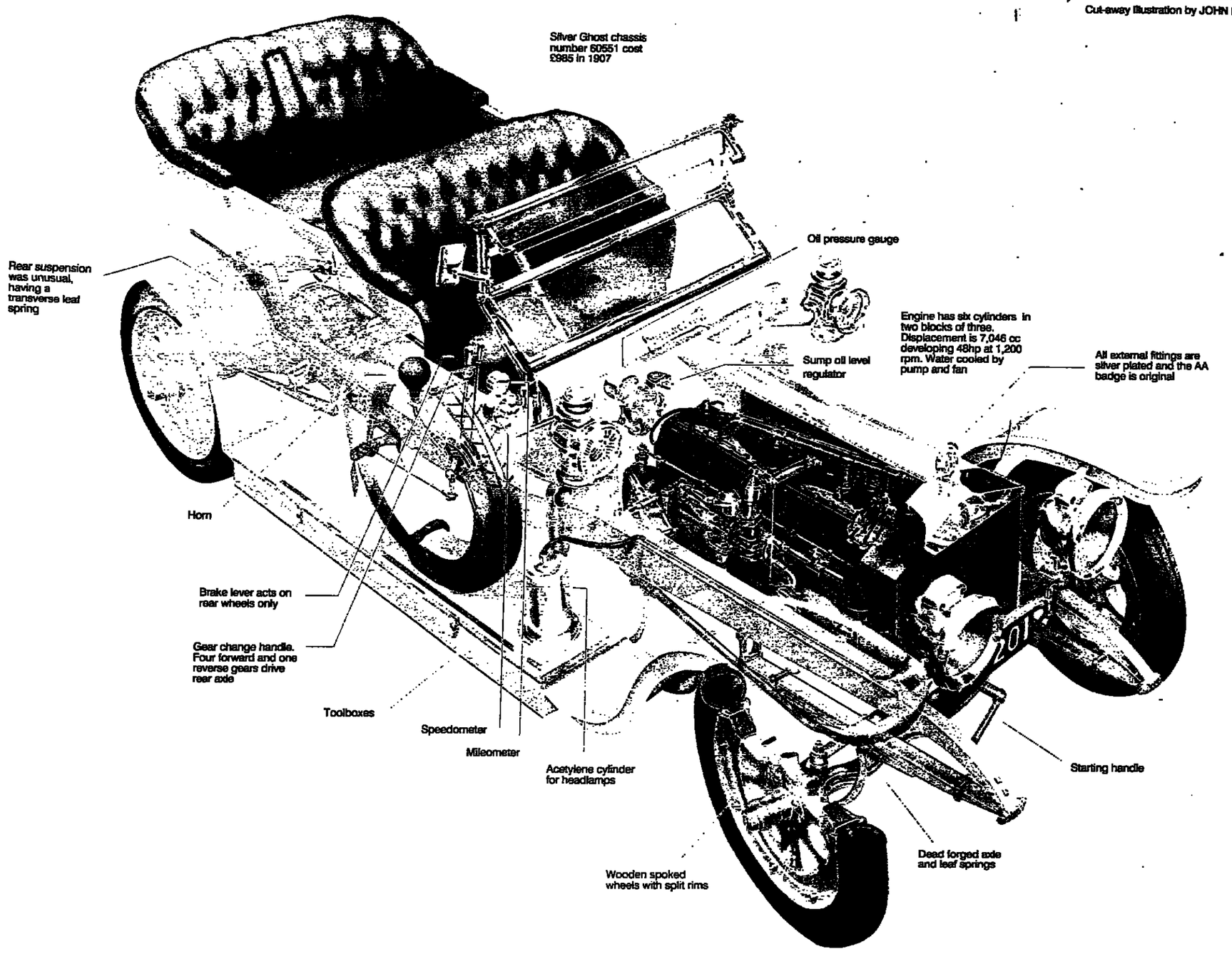
Mikkola heads rally

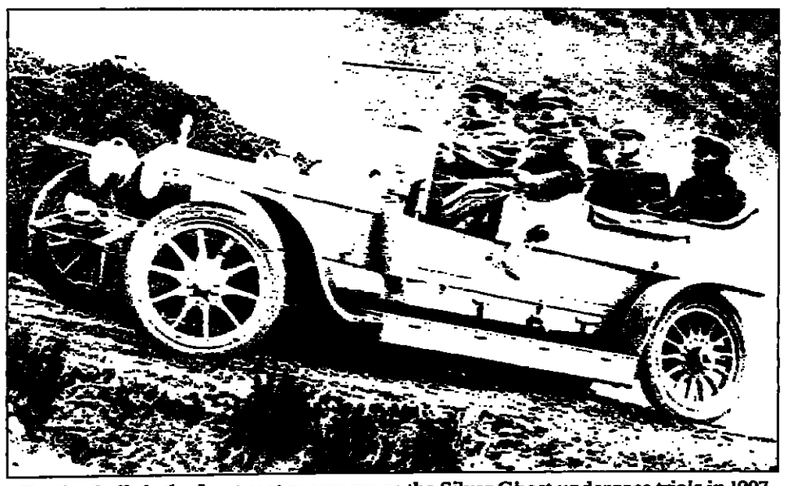
Organisers are confident that the London to Mexico rally will go ahead even though there is trouble *en route*. Competitors from 22 nations are due to set out on April 22 but the route takes them through Peru and Ecuador, two nations currently engaged in border skirmishes. The entrants are headed by Hannu Mikkola, one of the world's top rally drivers.

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu hails the 1907 Silver Ghost in his series on 12 great British cars

The silent star with a silver lining

Cut-away illustration by JOHN LAWSON





Charles Rolls is the front-seat passenger as the Silver Ghost undergoes trials in 1907

In the spring of 1904, the Honourable Charles Stewart Rolls was a successful car salesman forced to sell foreign cars because there was no British-made car of sufficient quality for his aristocratic customers.

Unhappy with this, he confided to Henry Edmunds — a pioneer of electric lighting and telephony and friend of Thomas Edison — that he wanted to be connected with a car which would make Rolls a household name. Edmunds said he knew of a small car just built in Manchester by a manufacturer of electric cranes, Frederick Henry Royce. If Rolls could visit Manchester, he might find just what he wanted.

The two men met eventually over lunch at the Midland Hotel on May 4, 1904, with Edmunds as host: in the afternoon Rolls tried the Royce car and returned to London convinced that he had found his quality British car. His partner, Claude Johnson, agreed and the way was open for the creation of the most famous association in motoring history.

The original Royce car had only two cylinders and although wondrously smooth, it did not suit his ambitions for a top quality car. Fortunately, Royce had told Rolls that he hoped to make cars with four and even six cylinders. Actually, the first six-cylinder did not appear until 1905 with the 30hp model. The engine was really no more than three blocks of the two-cylinder engine and suffered, like all sixes of the day, from crankshaft vibration. Royce realised a complete redesign was needed. He created a new engine, larger than the six-litre 30hp at 7036cc and with cylinders conceived as a brace of triplets rather than a trio of twins. Known as the 40/50, it was shown to the public at London's Olympia Motor Show in November, 1906.

Claude Johnson did not believe in releasing an untested car on the market and, for the first half of 1907, prototypes of the 40/50 were tested up and down the country. The 12th chassis numbered 60 551 was fitted with a silver-painted touring body, with silver-plated fittings. Cars often had individual names and this one was called the Silver Ghost because of its uncanny silence, with a plaque to that effect on the dashboard. It was not until several years later that the name came to be applied to all 40/50s.

Among the trials to which the Silver Ghost was subjected were a drive from Bexhill to Glasgow (about 470 miles) using the two upper gears only, and continuous driving between Glasgow and London until 15,000 miles had been covered. When the car was dismantled after this trial, the cost in materials to bring it back to mint condition was £2 2s 7d. *The Autocar* tested the Silver Ghost in April 1907 and was impressed: "There is no realisation of driving propulsion: the feeling as the passenger sits either at the front or back is one of being wafted through the landscape."

The Silver Ghost was sold to a private owner in 1908 and returned to the factory in 1948. It still appears regularly on the company's behalf in rallies and shows, and is arguably the most valuable Edwardian car in existence.

The first 40/50s went on sale in September 1907 and demand was high. Even before it went into production, a search for a new factory was underway, because the Manchester premises were too cramped. A site at Derby was chosen. My father, who had already purchased his first Rolls-Royce, opened the factory in July 1908. The smaller Rolls-Royces were dropped and the Silver Ghost became the only model. Production averaged seven chassis per week (350 per annum), rising to 600 per annum by 1913.

Rolls-Royce never had a body department and all coachwork was by specialists, of which Barker and Hooper were the best known. Depending on chassis length and coachwork, the Silver Ghost was a car of contrasting character. Many were heavy limousines or landaulettes, for the "maharajah or the duchess" trade as Henry Royce called them, but there were also sprint models such as the London-Edinburgh and Alpine Eagle. The latter was originally a team car for the 1913 Austrian Alpine Trial. In the previous year's event, James Radley, a friend of Rolls, had failed to re-start on a 14-degree hill on the Katchberg Pass, forcing the passengers to get out. This lost Radley so many points that he had to retire. Great was the chagrin at Derby, and the cars were redesigned for 1913 with a four-speed gearbox and larger radiator. They dominated the 1913 event, taking six awards. The four-speed gearbox was standardised on all Ghosts as a result, and replicas of the team cars were sold under the name Continental or Alpine Eagle.

From 1911 most cars were fitted with the mascot known variously as the Flying Lady, Silver Lady or more correctly, Spirit of Ecstasy. It was designed by the sculptor Charles Sykes and the model is generally acknowledged to have been my father's personal assistant Eleanor Thornton.

During the First World War the Silver Ghost was widely used by the armed forces in three main roles: as a staff car, as a supply vehicle with light truck body, and as an armoured car. Lawrence of Arabia valued them highly. "A Rolls in the desert was above rubies," he wrote.

After the war, Rolls-Royce was slow to change and the only concession to post-war motoring was that electric lighting and starting which had been extras in 1914 were now standardised and in 1924 Rolls-Royce at long last fitted four-wheel brakes — one of the last manufacturers of luxury cars to do so. The Silver Ghost was dropped in May 1925. A total of 6,173 Ghost chassis were made and approximately 1,000 remain.

Of the two Silver Ghosts in the National Motor Museum I cannot make up my mind which is my favourite: the 1909 Tourer or the 1913 Alpine Eagle. The older one I bought as a breakdown truck and its early years were spent in Perth ending up as a hearse. It was splendidly restored in the 1960s with a Roi-des-Belge body and I have toured with it all over Europe.

The Alpine is my favourite, the perfect car for a rally. I remember the joy of crossing the endless Nullarbor Plain in Southern Australia, cruising steadily at 55mph, when I drove with Prince Michael of Kent from Perth to Canberra in the 1988 Bicentennial Rally.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Toyota in search of British revival

Toyota is to replace every current model in its range over the next two years to revive its fortunes in Britain.

That means a dozen new cars on the UK market while the Japanese company's factory at Burnaston, Derbyshire, will consolidate its position as the nation's fourth biggest car exporter after Nissan, Rover and Vauxhall.

Runaway winner

Citroens have captured leading places in the check on running costs organised by *Fleet Management* magazine. It shows that the AX, ZX and Xantia diesels are among class leaders for economy for business users over 60,000 miles, the Citroen ZX Reflex 1.9D costing 21.6p a mile.

Proton push

New Proton cars get improved warranty featuring three year/60,000 mile overall cover, six years or 60,000 miles for the power train, six years unlimited mileage on bodywork, three years and unlimited for paintwork plus three years membership of the RAC. The sales push for February and March includes two years free servicing.

Premiums fall

Premiums on touring caravans are falling by 13 per cent from Goldcare Insurance in Aldershot, Hampshire. The company stipulates every caravan is wheel clamped if unattended, leading to reduced theft claims. Goldcare is on 0252-22596.

Fiat price rise

Fiat has raised prices by an average 2.5 per cent but says buyers get extra features as a bonus. Security window etching is introduced on several models while the Punto also gets an immobiliser and driver's side airbag.

New Nissan

Nissan is raising the stakes for sales of small cars with a new model, the Micra Mauritius, on sale from £89 a month on its low cost finance scheme. The British-made 1.0-litre car comes at a base price of £7,495 but offers 47 miles to the gallon economy.

Back to basics

Lower specification Shoguns are on offer from Mitsubishi. The company has traditionally concentrated on high-spec 4x4s to compete with Land Rover but is now bringing in more basic GLX turbo-diesels at between £18,599 and £23,089.

The right track

One of Britain's big fleet companies, NT Gallagher of Manchester, has ordered 150 TrakBak homing devices from Securicor. The devices send out signals so that they can be tracked by police if stolen.

Sporty show

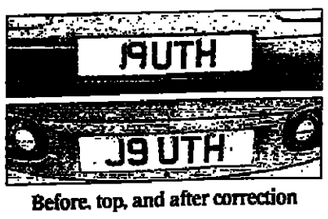
The Sports and Replica Car Show is on March 11 and 12 at Bingley Hall, Stafford.

Gambling with the numbers game

WHEN the horribly familiar sight of a motorcyle with flashing blue lights appeared in my rear-view mirror, I knew my number was up. This was the third time I had been stopped by police who wanted to know my number: the one at either end of the red Mazda MX5 I had bought a few months earlier and which I considered incomplete without a personalised plate (Ruth Gledhill writes).

Officer number three was not easily deterred. In vain did I produce the legal plates from the boot and argue, truthfully, that they were to be fitted that week at the 12,000 mile service. My crime was that the police couldn't make out the numbers and characters. I admitted that the J and the 9 had been trimmed and elided in order to make the R of "Ruth", and hoped the ingenuity might count in my favour. It didn't.

He told me the police had instituted a new "incentive scheme" to encourage legal plates, by imposing spot fines.



Before, top, and after correction

Writing out a ticket, he said that if I failed to pay £20, a warrant would be issued for my arrest. The DVLA at Swansea would be informed and I would be compulsorily issued with a new, standard number plate if I failed to comply with the legal requirements set out in circular V796. "A number plate is not a fashion accessory," he said.

More than £150 million has been raised since the DVLA introduced its own telesales operation in 1993, with prices now starting at £345 for a personalised plate, with an extra £80 to cover Department of Transport costs. The best plates can fetch £6,000.

Difficulties arise when people such as myself, unwilling to pay such sums, try to cheat on the cheaper versions available.

"People do space numbers and letters illegally, and there are various ways," says the DVLA. Circular V796, and all DVLA publicity material, makes it clear that it is an offence to alter, rearrange or misrepresent letters or numbers in order to form names or words. There are also precise guidelines for spacing letters and numbers.

The meticulous policing now in place can, to the offender, seem unnecessary and trivial. But the police can only be right to alert drivers to the nature of an offence, which, at worst, could jeopardise the process of justice if an untraceable car were to be involved in a serious accident.

For Select, the DVLA telesales operation, call 081 200 6565.

THE TIMES

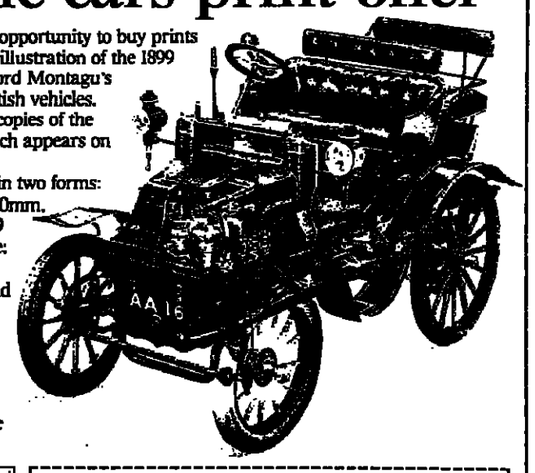
Historic cars print offer

Today we offer readers the opportunity to buy prints of John Lawson's cut-away illustration of the 1899 Daimler – the first car in Lord Montagu's series of 12 outstanding British vehicles.

Readers may also order copies of the Rolls-Royce illustration which appears on this page.

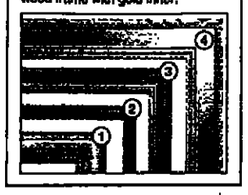
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- 94L 80 2.0E, Automatic, Red, Black Interior, Factory Alarm, 5500 Miles
- 94L 80 2.0E SE, 5 Speed, Alloys, Roof Rails, Spoiler, Remote Alarm, ABS, Demo Car
- 94L 80 2.0E SPORT SE, Emerald Pearl, 5 Spoke Alloys, Roof Rails, Electric Windows
- 94M 80 1.6SE, Emeral Pearl, Immobiliser, 10 Spoke Alloys, Electric Roof, Demo Car
- 93 80 2.6 X 2, Both with Air-Conditioning, Silver and Forest
- 94L 100 2.0 SE ESTATE, Crystal Silver, Roof Rails, Alloys, Demo Car
- 94L 100 2.0E, Automatic, Tornado, Alloys, Roof Rails, Central Locking, ABS
- 94L 100 2.0E, Automatic, Minerva, Alloys, Wash, Remote Alarm, Demo Car
- 94M A6 TDi SE ESTATE, Tornado, Alloys, CD, Roof Rails, Air Bag, Sports Equipment

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THE TIMES ROAD TEST: Audi's A8 is a joy to drive but lacks cachet, finds **Kevin Eason**, motoring correspondent

Bright, light but not quite right



Smooth mover: the 4.2-litre V8 quattro gives 300 bhp to cover 0-62mph in 7.3 secs and reach 155mph (electronically limited). The £46,699 price includes anti-lock brakes, cruise control, leather upholstery, electric front seats, walnut cabin trim, double-glazed windows, CD player, power steering and alarm

Surely some mistake here ... or Audi is driving up the wrong path to a bright new future of shiny metal that nobody really wants.

The Audi A8 is the wonder car of the age, if all the publicity is to be believed. Motoring experts say simply that it is the best car in the world, never mind its technical innovation. The normally modest Audi company has been feeling quite pleased, too.

Rather cleverly, Audi has proved that aluminium is an alternative to traditional steel in manufacturing cars.

The company has made a speciality out of pioneering technology, some good and some distinctly iffy. The four-wheel-drive quattro was a triumph, turning the principle of 4x4 in sports coupés and saloons into something no self-respecting manufacturer could do without.

Hands up all those who can remember Procon-Ten, though. Exactly. A good idea at the time, Audi designed the steering wheel so that it was pulled away from the driver on a system of jigs and pulleys in a crash. Everybody else just put in an airbag. Audi eventually abandoned Procon-Ten and fitted airbags too.

Now comes the all-aluminium car. There is no doubting the attractiveness of the metal as a structure for the modern car, with its easy moulding in the factory and recyclability. It is Audi's argument in favour of the A8 that defeats me.

The German maker says the virtue of using aluminium in the A8's body structure and skin is the weight saving. It might be more costly to buy and produce but an aluminium car pays for itself in environmental terms by being lighter and using less fuel, therefore pumping less carbon dioxide into the atmosphere over its lifetime.

Fine. Except that Audi's £46,699, 4.2-litre V8 weighs 1,750 kilogrammes, accelerates from 0 to 62mph in 7.3 seconds and turns in fuel consumption of 17.1 miles to the gallon on urban driving.

> 'The Audi does not have that much style to flaunt'

The apparently lumpier Jaguar Sovereign 4.0 gets from 0 to 60mph in 7.8 seconds, weighs 1,800 kgs but returns 19.8mpg in urban driving. Even the Mercedes S420, regarded as the Fatty Arbuckle of motoring, manages 17.7mpg from its 1,990kgs.

Throw in the figures for Toyota's new Lexus and confusion reigns. The Japanese contender weighs in at 1,725kgs, with barely a strip of aluminium in sight, and there is the reward of an impressive 21.2mpg around town.

What are we ordinary car-buying buffs to make of this? Audi says that adding permanent four-wheel-drive adds a weight penalty, in which case why not go without and face the competition head-on?

I like the Audi A8 a lot: it is smooth, quiet and comfortable. It is not, though, the car I want to rush out and spend the mortgage money on. The styling is Euro-very-large-car, with little to distinguish it in a crowd where styling really does count. If you can afford it, you can flaunt it; and the Audi does not have that much style to flaunt.

Unfortunately, the luxury car makers have been as bad as manufacturers of mid-range vehicles at styling models which have their own identity, with the honourable exception of Jaguar.

So why buy an Audi? Well, the welter of publicity over its all-aluminium shell and structure might be a step forward for manufacturing but is probably of little or no interest to buyers. If they want a car which will cosset them on long motorway trips in perfect peace and quiet, then the Audi is a winner.

It handles beautifully to the extent that a few days test driving had me wanting not to hand it back. There is almost no engine noise apart from a polite roar from the V8 on hard acceleration and wind noise barely exists, probably thanks to the class-leading aerodynamics.

The standard gadgets are impressive, including new security systems which have an alarm, immobiliser and visible vehicle identification number. There is also a new Tiptronic manual gearbox, developed by Porsche. A sideways push of the automatic gear lever gives the driver a racing-style sequential box: push forward to change up, back to change down and no clutch needed. Easy to use but really little more than a gismo which I barely used.

Audi suffers a little from the Japanese affliction, like the Lexus. Everyone is sure to admire its technology but I suspect buyers in this class demand cachet, and the Audi badge carries no great historical baggage, unlike Jaguar, Mercedes or BMW.

It is a wonderful, if bland, car. But with £46,000 in your pocket, would you really buy an Audi against the competition for the sake of a shiny aluminium body? I rest my case.

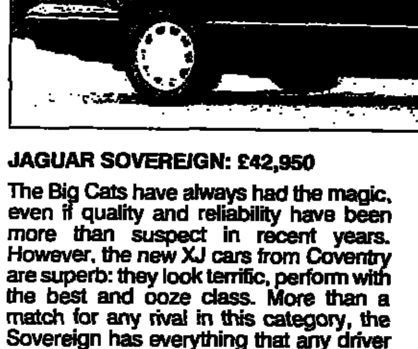
CONTENDERS FOR TITLE OF BEST SALOON CAR IN THE WORLD

WHEN the Japanese decide to do something, they want to do it better than anybody. So when Toyota decided to make a luxury car, it combined the virtues of the three acknowledged market leaders: Mercedes-Benz, Jaguar and BMW.

To have created the Lexus LS400, right, in six years is a staggering achievement. The first model, which reached Europe in 1987, had distinct overtones of the Mercedes S-class and reeked of class. It was superbly put together, with the finest 4-litre, 32-valve V8 engine in the world.

Now on sale is the Lexus LS400 Mk2. Power has been increased from 241 to 260 bhp, though the engine is as quiet and smooth as ever, achieving 156mph and 0-60mph in 7.4 seconds. Yet the car can return 21.2mpg around town.

Almost every part has been redesigned and 85 per cent is entirely new, with 1,700 improvements. This is the car with no extras, and the £44,475 price buys air-conditioning, twin airbags, seven-speaker sound system, leather interior, cruise control, adjustable steering column and engine immobiliser.



JAGUAR SOVEREIGN: £42,950

The Big Cats have always had the magic, even if quality and reliability have been more than suspect in recent years. However, the new XJ cars from Coventry are superb: they look terrific, perform with the best and ooze class. More than a match for any rival in this category, the Sovereign has everything that any driver could need, from twin airbags to anti-theft locks and air-conditioning as well as a gorgeous, traditional Jaguar wood and leather interior.

MERCEDES S420: £56,100

Love it or loathe it, you have to admit that the S-Class is a remarkable car. It has everything and does everything — with knobs on. But it is a vast, overweight and somehow absurd piece of engineering that has made technical perfection the goal at the expense of almost every motoring sensation and pleasure. The result is an amazing motoring machine, but who cares? The answer is probably nobody save for those who lust after the prestige of the three-pointed star.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The self-tuning car radio

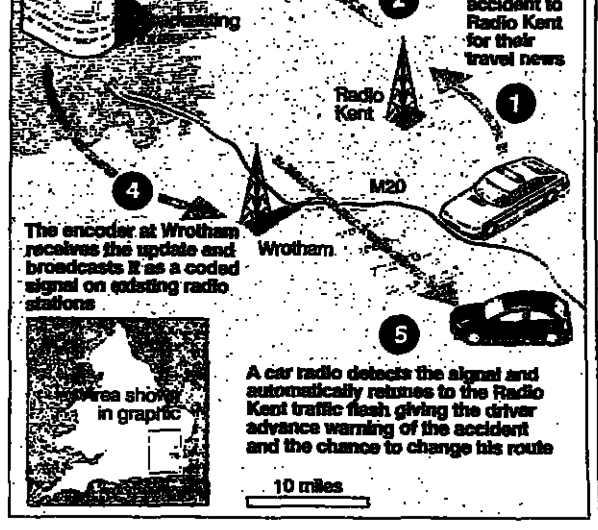
RDS (Radio Data System) ensures a car's radio is constantly and automatically tuned to the strongest signal. It also allows traffic bulletins to be heard whatever programme is being listened to — and even switches the cassette to the tuner so no news bulletin is missed (Vaughan Freeman writes).

A "flag" or "label", transmitted by radio stations, is interpreted by RDS tuners. This tells the receiver the programme's country of origin, whether the service is national, regional or local, and which transmitter broadcasting the station gives the strongest signal. RDS automatically retunes if it can get better reception.

It also picks up TP (traffic programme) labels, which means that whatever station is being listened to, the receiver will tune to traffic bulletins from other networks. When RDS picks up the TP identifier, it tunes to the traffic announcement, temporarily overriding any other programme or cassette.

For example, a motorist leaving Folkestone on the M20 for London and listening to Radio 4 will be unaware of an accident 30 miles ahead. But local police alert Radio Kent headquarters, which puts out an RDS traffic bulletin.

BBC Broadcasting House receives the signal that Radio Kent is putting out a traffic bulletin and transmits an RDS update for Radios 1,2,3 and 4 to instantly broadcast a flag. This flag tells RDS receivers tuned to Radio 4 in the area to retune to Radio Kent. The motorist's RDS picks up this flag and switches for the duration of the traffic news to Radio Kent, allowing the driver to pull off the M20 and find an alternative route.



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94L E280 24V Almandine, Grey, 5Spd 'A', Wal, A/Bags, HLWW, OTG, Alarm, Fur, R/St ....
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93L 280TE 24V Estate B/Silver, Grey, 'A', R.F.Seat, A/Con, 8 Holes, A/Bag, Wal, R/St 17T £21,995
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94L E220 Auto airbag, esr	11T £24,950
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94M E220 Auto ww, esr	1T £27,950
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93L E220T Auto rs, esr	3T £28,950
94L E280T a/c, hide, ww, 8 h/alloys	18T £35,950
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93K 320CE Met, hide, a/c, 8 h/alloys	17T £39,950
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93L 190E 2.0 Malachite, grey cloth, elc, ela, ds, al ...22T	£17,995
91J 190E 2.6 Auto Pearl grey, grey cloth 65T	£14,995
87E 190E Auto Pine green, air con, alls, esr, ew 43T	£ 9,995
93L 280E Auto Almandine red, grey cloth, aw, esr ...22T	£28,995
93L E280 Est Auto Almandine, mush. cloth, elc, aw, ds...19T	£25,995
93L E280 Auto Imperial red, grey cloth, esr, elw 14T	£21,995
93L E220 Auto Brilliant Silver, air, fur 24T	£22,995
94M E220 Auto Blue black, air con, rhr, ww 8T	£25,995
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93L E280 Smoke Silver, black hide, 8 aw, els, ww 13T	£29,995
92K 280E Smoke silver, black tex, 8 aw, cc, rhr, olg 25T	£22,995
92K 300E Auto Nautic blue, cream hide, ww, aw 25T	£24,995
91J 300D Blue Barolo red, cream cloth, aw 39T	£19,995
94L E300D Auto Nautic blue, cloth, air bag, rhr 28T	£25,995
91J 280TE Auto Midnight blue, grey cloth, rfs, esr ..36T	£18,995
93K 220CE Blue black, grey hide, 8aw 17T	£27,995
92K 320CE Signal red, cream hide, air con, 5Spd, aw .37T	£33,995
89F 300SE Blue black, grey velour, cc, aw, els 41T	£16,995
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93L C220 Classic 5 Spd esr, ew, ctg, rhr, ics, alls, dst 35T	£21,995
93K 190E 1.8LE Auto met, esr, ew, 8 hole, wal, rhr ...21T	£17,995
93K 190E 1.8 LE Auto met, wal, esr, ew, 8 holes, dst ..45T	£16,595
91H 190D 2.5 5 Speed dst 39T	£13,995
94L E220 5 Speed met, lex, d/a bag, rhr, lww, dst 10T	£23,995
93L E220 Auto met, rhr, wal, dst, alarm, esr, ew 14T	£24,695
94L E220 Coupe Auto met, airbag, 8 h, wal, esr, lex, dst ..10T	£30,995
94M E220 Coupe Auto met, 8h, low susp, wal, rhr, cd ...5T	£31,995
94M E220 Cabrio hide, spec 17" alloys, Fasspension, cc	£41,995
92K 280E Auto met, lex, 8 holes, ctg, dst 20T	£24,595
92K 300E Auto met, hide, sportline, 8 holes, wal, dst ...12T	£25,595
91H 300E 24V Auto met, hide, alloys, wal, aircon, rhr, hww .57T	£22,595
90H 300D met, auto, ww, dst 35T	£19,995
94L E280 Auto met, airbags, wal, dst 10T	£28,995
94L E300D Auto met, 8h, rlspdr, dst, esr, ew, abs, alb...75T	£28,995
92K 230T Est Auto met, esr, ew, abs, ds, 8 holes, rhr, dst 46T	£21,995
91H 230CE Auto met, hide, air, alloys 26T	£23,995
90H 300CE 24V met, hide, air, sportline 15T	£29,995
93K 320CE Auto met, hide, air con, 8 holes, rsr 32T	£35,995
94L E320 Cabriolet Auto hide, air con, ads, 8 holes 7T	£47,995
94L S320 Auto hide, 8 holes, ads, hww, climate, cd 11T	£41,995
92K 300SE Auto met, alloys, esr, ew, wal, rhr, ctg 35T	£25,995
93J 300SL 24V Auto hide, 8 holes, dst 19T	£46,995
91H 500SL Auto met, hide, esr, ahead, air con, dst 33T	£50,995
90G 420SEC Auto met, hide, els, cc, alcon, alloys, dst..55T	£24,995
93L S500 Limo Auto met, hide, 8 holes, wgs, cd, els 8T	£59,995

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89G 190 Auto Midnight, esr, lex, rhr 25T	£11,495
92J 190E Auto Signal, esr, elw, alarm 31T	£13,995
94L 190LE Auto Azzuro blue, 8aw, rhr, lex 9T	£19,995
94M C180 Auto Elegance Black, cc, alarm 5T	£21,995
94M C280 Auto Elegance Imp., hide, elc, als, 8aw, wa..1T	P.O.A.
93L C220 Auto Sport Silver, hide, rhr, ga, a/c, alls ...19T	£27,495
94L C220 Auto Sport Silver, hide, alloys, rhr 6T	£28,995
90H 230E Auto Pearl grey, ww, esr, ew 29T	£13,495
92K 230TE Auto Silver, esr, fur, rhr, ww, ww 35T	£24,995
94M E220C Onyx grey, hide, w/w, 17" AMG Alloys, a/c...1T	P.O.A.
94M E220 Coupe Brilliant, hide, sportline, 8aw, ww, ads.1T	£35,495
94L E280T Auto White, als, esr, ew, alarm 11T	£27,495
94L 220E Auto Black, elcool, lex, rhr, ew 12T	£21,995
94M E300T Diesel Auto Silver, als, ww, alarm, cd 4T	£33,995
95M E280 Auto Silver, esr, ww, hww, alloys 1T	£33,495
93L E320 Coupe Pearl blue, hide, a/c, alloy, 8aw, ads, cc.11T	£38,995
93L E320T Rosewood, 8aw, hide, a/c, alc, ds 19T	£39,995
94M E220 Cabriolet Auto Tourmaline, hide, allns, 8aw 5T	£41,995
94L E220 Cabriolet Auto Almandine/hide, a/c, 8aw 1T	£41,995
92J 300SL 24V Pearl blue, hide, a/c, rcs, 8aw, airbag..20T	£48,995
93L SL280 Imperial/hide, a/c, alloys, climate 13T	£49,995
91J SL320 Black, hide, rcs, 8aw, a/c, c/c 19T	£56,995
91J 500SL Pearl grey, hide, a/c, rcs, 8aw, bls, asr 27T	£53,995
93J 500SL Signal, hide, air con, rcs, bls, 8aw 36T	£54,995
93L SL500 Imperial, hide, climate, c/c, 8aw, rcs 21T	£59,995
94L SL500 Brilliant, hide, c/c, 8aw, ecs, cc 8T	£69,995
94L SL500 Blue black, hide, c/c, 8aw, rcs, cc, cd 12T	£69,995
93L S500SEC Bornite, hide, 8aw, c/c, als, cc 20T	£59,995
93L S500C Blue black, hide, 8aw, c/c, a/c, els 2T	£69,995
94L S500SEC Silver, hide, alloys, c/c, els, c/c 16T	£66,995
93L S500 Coupe Nautic, hide, 8aw, asr, c/c, c/c, hls ...7T	£72,995
93K 600SL B/black, hide, 8aw, c/c, ads, asr, twin airbags .8T	P.O.A.

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93J 190E 2.0 Auto met, abs, esr, dst 15T	£17,995
94M C180 Elegance Auto rhr, ew, dst 2T	£22,495
94L C180 Elegance Auto rhr, lex, al, dst 5T	£22,995
93L C220 Sport Auto met, rsl, split seat, rhr 21T	£23,995
93L C250D Elegance met, dst 7T	£24,995
93L 200E Auto met, esr, ew, dst 24T	£21,995
93K 220E Auto 4 x 8H, dst 15T	£22,995
92K 230E Auto met, esr, dst 27T	£21,995
88E 300E Auto hide, a/c, alloys, lwww, dst 52T	£15,995
93L E220 Auto met, a/c, lxr, af, dst 12T	£25,495
94M E220 Auto ww, rhr, 8h alloys, lxr, dst 11T	£28,995
94M E250D Auto met, ab x 2, dst 1T	£24,995
94M E280 Auto 5 Spd, met, hww, ctg, ww, dst 5T	£29,995
94L E280T Auto met, a/c, 8hs, els, ds, ww 20T	£31,995
93L E320 Cab met, hide, ab x 2, cd 7T	£44,995
92K 300E 24V Auto met, dst 31T	£26,995
93K 320E met, hide, 5 speed auto, a/c, ads, 8h sls, ctg 59T	£28,995
92K 280TE Auto met, esr, ds, bs, dst 31T	£22,995
93K 280TE Auto esr, lww, dst 7T	£23,995
93K 220TE Auto ww, rfs, dst 26T	£25,995
94L E300D Auto met, hide, ww, lwn, a/c, dst 4T	£29,995
92K 230CE Auto met, ads, 8h alloys, lmb 31T	£27,495
93K 300SE met, hide, 15 hs, dst 27T	£47,995
88E 300SL met, dst 28T	£23,995
94L S500C met, 8h alloys, alarm 25T	£65,995
93G 500SEC met, hide, bls, lws, full dachetabst 41T	£28,995
93L 600SEC met, hide, esr 17T	P.O.A.
93J 500SEL met, hide, 8h alloys, rnds, dst 40T	£46,995
94L SL500 met, hide, climate, rcs, alloys, cd 22T	£84,995
91H 500SL met, hide, a/c, asr, abs, rcs, ad alloys 19T	£51,995
93J 300SL met, hide, rsd, asr, hls, a/c, 8h alloys 46T	£49,995

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91 (H) 500SL Nautic, Hide, A/C ..41T	£46,995
94 (L) SL280 Almandine, Hide ...2T	£49,995
94 (M) E320CE Silver, Grey Hide .11T	£41,995
92 (K) 300CE 24V B/Black, Hide .33T	£33,995
93 (L) E320 Silver, Hide, A/C 12T	£33,995
92 (K) 300E Almandine, Hide ...54T	£22,995
90 (G) 260TE Arctic, MB Tex 11T	£27,995
94 (L) E200T White, Auto, RFS ..10T	£24,995
92 (J) 230TE Malachite, Hi Spec .35T	£22,995
94 (L) E220 Smoke Silver, Auto ..11T	£22,995
93 (L) E220 White, Auto 10T	£22,995
94 (L) E200 Nutria, Auto 26T	£20,995
93 (L) E200 Almandine, Auto ...19T	£20,995
93 (L) E200 Pearl Blue, Auto 24T	£20,995
93 (L) C220 Eleg Rosewood, Auto 4T	£23,995
94 (M) C250 Eleg Pearl, Auto 9T	£28,995
94 (M) C200 Eleg Red, Auto 5T	£23,500
94 (M) C180 Sport Black, Manual .5T	£20,995
91 (H) 190E 2.0 Almandine, Auto 30T	£13,995
93 (L) 190E 1.8 Almandine, Auto 12T	£16,995
93 (L) 190E 1.8 Black, Auto 28T	£16,995
93 (L) 190E 1.8 Signal Red, Auto 24T	£16,495
93L S280 Midnight Blue, Cream Hide, Climate Control 12T	£39,995
93K 300CE 24V Blue Black, Black Hide, Elec. Stereo + Mem, AMG Alloys ..22T	£34,995
93J 300CE Silver, Black Hide, 8 Hole Alloys, Sportline 18T	£29,995
91J 300E 24V Anthracite, Grey Hide, Alloys 29T	£24,995
92K 280E Smoke Silver, Cream Cloth, Stereo 29T	£22,995
91H 260E Anthracite, Grey Cloth, Stereo, Alloys 36T	£18,995
90H 260E Barolo, Cream Cloth, ESR, EFW 28T	£15,495
93L 300TD Pearl Grey, Black Cloth, Rear Seats 17T	£23,995
94M E280T Almandine, Grey Cloth, A/Con, R/Seats, 8 Hole Alloys, Stereo ...7T	£35,995
93L E200T Almandine, Grey Cloth, ESR, EFW, Walnut, Stereo 9T	£24,995
94L C220 Sport Silver, Black Cloth, Auto, ERW, FAR 10T	£24,995
94L C220 Classic Auto, Imperial, Cream, OTG, ESR, 4EW, Stereo, Alarm ..14T	£23,995
94L C180 Sport Auto, Blue Black, Black Cloth, Stereo 9T	£21,495
92K 190E 1.8 Barolo Red, Cream Cloth, ESR, Stereo 12T	£13,995
93K 190E 1.8 LE Auto, Rosso, Cream, 8 Hole Alloys, Walnut, Stereo 12T	£17,495
93K 190E 2.0 Auto, Pearl Blue, Cream Cloth, ESR, EFW 36T	£16,995
92K 190E 1.8 Auto, Malachite, Cream Cloth, ESR 28T	£15,495
92K 190E 1.8 5 Speed Pearl Blue, Blue Cloth, ESR 38T	£14,495

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Bromley 081 460 8888
0378 284967

AA alert on DIY kits for brakes

Do-it-yourself motorists have been warned not to invest in anti-lock brakes they can fit themselves.

The AA says that the £300 kits will probably not improve braking and could put motorists in danger if not fitted correctly.

Discount offer

Premium Search, the Northampton-based direct insurer, is among the first to offer discounts to new drivers who take extra lessons after passing their test. Discounts could be worth 30 per cent. Information on 0800-109876.

£9.95 check-up

Honda is offering owners of 340,000 of its motorcycles an 18-point condition check for £9.95. Available until May 31, the check covers mechanical parts, including bearings, seals and clutch.

Peugeot party

Peugeot has made 1 million of its 106. A ceremony marking the milestone was held at the company's Mulhouse factory in France. The 106 is Britain's bestselling small diesel model and fifth bestselling small car, accounting for 30 per cent of Peugeot sales here.

Accident help

A new accident handling service has started with Town & Country as an add-on to motor insurance policies. It includes 24-hour recovery after a crash, replacement vehicle and help from a claims specialist. Cost £15 annually, further information on 0473-211000.

MG celebration

The Heritage Motor Centre at Gaydon, Warwickshire, will celebrate 70 years of the MG from March 26 to June 11. Scores of MGs will be on show with entry price concessions for MG owners. Call Heritage on 0926-641188.

A City bus is testing a new invention designed to cleanse the air we breathe. **Nick Nuttall** reports

Route 535 proves just the ticket to lift the cloud over diesel exhausts

There is a breath of fresh air for the pedestrians, mothers with push chairs and cyclists on London bus route number 535, which wends its way from Upton Park in east London to Aldgate in the City.

Over the past few months the Leyland Titan which plies the route has been testing a device which its makers claim can reform the tarnished image of diesel by helping to cleanse the exhaust of particulates — the invisible cloud of sooty flecks which pour from diesel vehicles.

A welter of scientific papers have linked these pollutants with breathing difficulties, asthma attacks and cancer. Last month researchers in Aberdeen and Edinburgh claimed a link between particulates and heart attacks, saying that the sooty flecks cause blood to clot.

The new patented device tackles the stream of exhaust particles in a novel and, it is claimed, simple way. Peter Duff, engineering director of Stagecoach East London, says the technology has removed smell and around 90 per cent of the particulates.

Called the continously regenerating trap (CRT), it has been developed by the British company Johnson Matthey, one of the world's biggest makers of catalytic converters, and a British silencer maker called Eminox.

Vapourising the particulates normally requires temperatures of over 600C which is well above operational temperatures of a diesel engine.

So rival developers have turned to heating devices including burners to tackle the haze of soot. Others have looked at altering the pressures in diesels to lower the vapourising temperature. But the complexity of such systems has hampered their appeal.

The new device hinges on the discovery that nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), a gas in the fumes, can "oxidise" particulates at temperatures of more than 250C if produced in sufficient quantities.

First the fumes from the engine pass through a catalyst which has been designed to maximise NO_2 levels. The gases then pass into the trap part of the system which is made from extruded ceramic containing millions of closed channels. The fumes pass through the walls leaving the soot behind. This then reacts with the NO_2 to form oxides of nitrogen and carbon dioxide.

There is a small increase in carbon dioxide emissions of around one to two per cent.

The device, which can be retrofitted to a diesel, acts as and takes the place of a silencer. A modern silencer costs around £1,000. The new system costs £3,000 to £4,000.

Johnson Matthey believes retrofitting is vital. New European pollution standards for diesels have been set for 1996. These will have little impact because a big diesel engine can last for many years. For example many buses in Britain are over 13 years-old.

The device is most effective with low sulphur diesel fuels because the by-products of high sulphur diesel absorb water and condense on the filter undermining its performance. But the system has been developed to anticipate new regulations imposing sulphur limits on fuels.

Robert Searles of the company said they would be lobbying the Government for help in promoting the devices. They want tax breaks for low sulphur fuels.

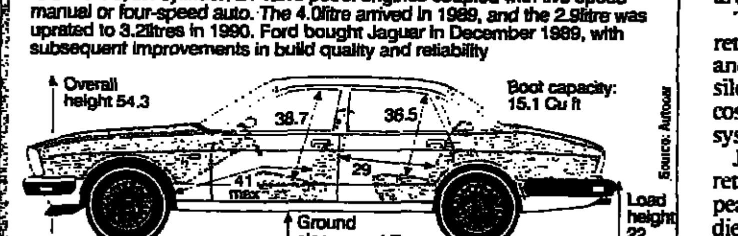
The units are currently only suitable for big vehicles and not for diesel cars. But Dr Pelham Hawker of the company says 95 per cent of the particles in the air are traffic related and of these 84 per cent are from trucks or buses.

USED CAR BRIEF



JAGUAR XJ6

For luxury-loving motorists unable or unwilling to spend £30,000-plus on Jaguar's new and highly rated XJ6, its squarer-syled predecessor makes sound sense. The old XJ6 was introduced in 1986 offering, initially, 2.9litre and 3.6litre, six-cylinder, 24-valve petrol engines coupled with five-speed manual or four-speed auto. The 4.0litre arrived in 1989, and the 2.9litre was uprated to 3.2litres in 1990. Ford bought Jaguar in December 1989, with subsequent improvements in build quality and reliability



GOOD NEWS: All XJ6 models carry ample creature comforts such as power steering, central locking, and electric windows, and nearly-new models will still carry a substantial chunk of the three-year manufacturer's warranty introduced in 1992.

BAD NEWS: A bad example will drain your bank balance, your patience, and your local mechanic's ingenuity. Early pre-Ford models had many teething problems, leaking boots a speciality, as well as electrical problems and flat batteries. Rear leg-room cramped for those over 6ft

LOOK FOR: Search out post-1989 models. Only buy cars with a full service history - preferably sourced through a franchised Jaguar dealer for true peace of mind. Leather, air conditioning and automatic gearbox a must to enjoy this car as well as to ensure best resale values

TO AVOID: High mileage examples sold privately, or through non-franchised dealerships, however tempting, or expect to pay dearly through repair costs. Early 2.9litre car considered underpowered. Manual gearbox naff for such a prestige vehicle

SAFETY RATING: Rated the safest car on Britain's roads according to police and Government crash statistics, largely due to car's impressive size and weight, but also to safety-conscious engineering and airbags

PRICE: From £5,000 for 1987, D-reg Sovereign 3.6, £12,000 for Sovereign 4.0 1990 on 60,000 miles. A 3.2litre 1990 car with average 50,000 mileage should cost £11,500 to £12,500, and a 1993 4.0 litre L-reg with 18,000 miles around £26,000 to £30,000

REPLACEMENT PARTS (prices include VAT): Automatic gearbox £1,500; Exhaust system £550; Front damper £100; rear damper £90; front brake pads £60; radiator £310; starter motor £300; alternator £235; tyre £155.

INSURANCE: Cover from AA insurance (0800 444777) on a 1992 Jaguar XJ6 4.0 litre, will cost a 55-year old male, with full no claims bonus living in Winchester, £363.25 fully comprehensive, and a 55-year old woman living in the same area with full NCB, £373.25. A 22-year old male with one year's no-claims bonus living in South West London will pay £2,149 and a 22-year old female with one year's no claims living in South West London will pay £1,925

OVERALL: An executive car for those who like to sit behind the steering wheel rather than behind the chauffeur. All the more attractive now that used prices are falling, driven down by the number that have been part-exchanged against the new model. Attractive prices should not though tempt those who have not ,thought, carefully about pricey insurance, maintenance and fuel bills

50 BESTSELLING USED CARS

MODEL	PRICE Jan-95	Feb-95	Chge
Mazda 2.0 GLX 5dr	13195	13450	1.93
Toyota MR2 GT 2dr	17595	18150	3.15
Fiat Panda 1000 CLX 3dr	4295	4375	1.86
BMW 320i 4dr	17650	17995	1.95
Mercedes Benz C180 Classic 4dr	17550	17595	0.25
Volvo 850 GLT 20V 4dr	15795	15750	-0.28
Volkswagen Corrado 2.0i	15495	15750	1.64
Saab 9000 ODE 2.3 4dr	22250	22250	0.00
Mazda MX5	14650	14895	1.67
Skoda Favorit LXi 5dr	4450	4525	1.68
Ford Granada Ghia 5dr	13195	13295	0.75
Honda Accord 2.0i LS 4dr	13795	13550	-1.77
Renault 19RN 5dr	8150	8295	1.77
Suzuki Vitara JLX 3dr	10150	10195	0.44
Mitsubishi Galant 1.8 GLS 4dr	10695	10695	0.00
Audi 80 2.0E 4dr	12550	12650	0.79
Renault Safrane 2.0 RN 5dr	12095	12295	1.65
Citroen AX GTi 3dr	7325	7450	1.69
Vauxhall Calibra 2.0i 3dr	14150	14150	0.00
Toyota Corolla 1.3 GLi 5dr	10295	9975	-3.10
Proton Persona 1.5 GLS 5dr	8895	8725	-1.91
Volvo 460 1.8Li 4dr	8425	8575	1.78
Volkswagen Polo 1.3CL 3dr	6295	6395	1.90
Seat Ibiza 1.4 CLX 5dr	6950	7095	2.08
Hyundai X2 1.5 GSi 5dr	6475	6525	0.77
Ford Mondeo 1.6LX 5dr	10195	9950	-2.46
Ford Escort 1.6LX 5dr	8995	8895	-1.26
Vauxhall Cavalier 1.8LS 5dr	9395	9150	-3.04
Vauxhall Astra 1.4LS 5dr	8850	8450	-1.32
Rover 214SLi 5dr	9650	9295	-4.11
Ford Fiesta 1.1LX 5dr	6950	6895	-0.81
Peugeot 405 1.6GLi 4dr	8395	8550	2.05
Vauxhall Corsa 1.2LS 3dr	6750	6695	-0.81
Peugeot 306 1.4XL 5dr	8125	8625	4.21
Rover 414 SLi 4dr	9575	9095	-5.65
Rover Metro 1.1S 5dr	6395	6295	-1.80
Citroen Xantia 1.8i LX 5dr	10595	10595	0.00
Rover 620 SLi 4dr	13150	13150	0.84
Renault Clio 1.2RL Prima 3dr	6095	6095	0.00
Volkswagen Golf CL 5dr	8825	8895	0.96
Nissan Primera 1.6LX 5dr	9125	9275	1.89
Nissan Micra 1.0L 5dr	6275	6250	-1.34
Renault Laguna 1.8RN 5dr	8900	8900	0.00
Peugeot 106 1.1XR 3dr	6595	6875	4.86
Rover 820 Si 4dr	14295	14095	-1.61
Vauxhall Omega 2.0i CD Auto4dr	17950	17895	-0.30
Citroen ZX1.4 Avantage 5dr	7750	7750	0.00
Toyota Carina E GLi 5dr	11195	11150	-0.50
Honda Civic LSi 3dr	10350	10150	-2.12
Fiat Punto 55 S 3dr	5925	5995	1.87

*Prices rounded to simulate actual dealer forecourt prices. HB = hatchback S = saloon. Price changes based on L-reg, low mileage cars. Figures supplied by **CAP Nationwide Motor Research.***

ALL is gloom in the motor industry with sales of new cars on the slide.

The industry was looking to complete its revival in 1995 with sales of 2 million, the best performance since 1990. But recent hikes in interest rates have killed off those hopes with new registrations last month down almost 4 per cent.

Dark clouds have a silver lining though for buyers at least, because the harder it becomes for manufacturers and dealers to sell, the more bargains there are going to be about.

Watch out for dealers discounting furiously over the next few months and offering special deals and higher specifications at the same money. Don't be afraid to bargain for deals and trade ins — dealers probably need the business on both new and used cars at the moment.

Even if you don't buy new or under a used car warranty scheme, changes to the Sale and Supply of Goods Act mean you can complain if there is something wrong with your car. Under the Act cars must be "of satisfactory quality" when sold.

HONDA

NSX 1991. Formular red/black leather. 23,000 mls. perfect condition, A/C, cd, cruise, traction etc. Reluctant sale. £34,950. Tel 0332 519221.

PRELUDE EX Coupe 2.0L. G reg. White, colour coded. 29,650 mls, alarm. FSH. Immaculate. lady owner. private sale. £8,950. Tel 0462 683391.

CIVIC COUPE 1.6 CRX V Tec, 5 spd, 1992, White/Black leather interior, 1 owner, 3,000 miles only, FSH, electric sun roof/windows, alloys, stereo. As new throughout. £9,950. 0883 342444 T

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DAIMLER 3.6 auto. burgundy/beige leather, full spec. FSH, 77k miles. 87(E). £5,250. Surrey 0372 459383

SOVEREIGN 3.2 1991. burgundy/Doeskin. 1 owner. ESR. FSH. 80K. Superb. £10,250 Tel 0243 783538 or 0860 697020T

XJS Conv. Auto Sport. Jan 1990. Grey. 13,500 mls only. Radio/cassette, air con, immaculate condition, 1 lady driver only, taxed & MOT till 1 Jan 1996. £19,000 ono. 0272 373632

JAGUAR XJR 91 4.0L Sport. Black, Int Tan lthr fully loaded FSH, 79k Must be seen £14,750 ono 0181 559 2665/552 6866

SOVEREIGN 4.0. metallic roachwork with leather hide, every conceivable feature. £11,995. SE 081 663 0898.

SOVEREIGN 3.6 88. Black/Beige int. Outstanding condition £5,950. 01283 762762 TH

XJ6 4.0 G 90. artic blue. FSH. auto, alloy wheels, e/sunroof & windows. 2nd owner. 62,000 miles. Immaculate condition. £8,000. Tel 0225 742606

XJ6 3.2 Auto. L 3/94. 7600 mls Rose Bronze. Service to 3/96 Warranty to 3/97 incl. Immac £21,950 081 647 3878 Prv.

XJS 3.6 auto. H (90). 69K mls. FSH. air/con. cruise control. maroon, cream leather interior. £12,950. Tel. 0280 812025 (H) or 0869 249268.

XJS 4.0 Auto Convertible New shape. 92. Solent blue, doeskin hide Computer A/C C/C EMS MDSH £26,950 0473 832148.

XJS 3.6 auto. G reg. Dark blue 44k. Air con. V good value. £8750. Tel: 0850 841680

XJS 5.3 Convertible (89) Signal Red. Magnolia Hide P. Red. 1 owner. 6,000 miles. FSH.. As New. £19,950. Tel. 01772 613114 (T)

XJS 5.3 V12 HE. auto sports. 1990. G reg. metallic light blue. immaculate. 34,000 mls. FSH. Just serviced. Extras. £13,995 OVNO. Tel: 01604 701999.

XJS 4l auto. 92 K. 42,500 miles. cream leather.dk blue. 1 owner. FSH. excellent condition. £19,000 ono. 0734 712632

XJ6 4 litre Auto 93. Morrocco Red/Cream hide. latest spec. CD & air bag. 23,000 miles. full Jaguar history £23,950. 0742 661753 or 0374 285556T

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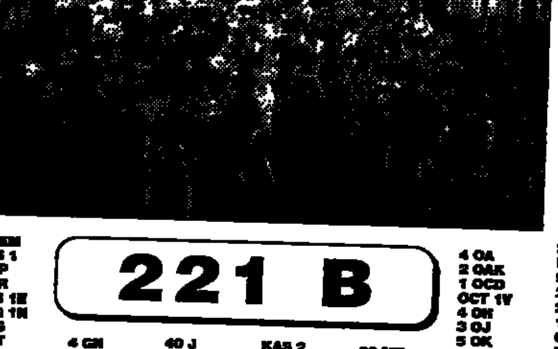
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Vaughan Freeman on the fortunes of the Czech-built Tatra, once a thing of rare beauty, now an ugly beast

Blast from the past hits comeback trail

When a certain A. Hitler first saw the revolutionary streamlined Czech-built Tatra at the 1936 Berlin motor show, he declared it the ideal car to cruise his new autobahns.

Sculpted like a cross between a Dan Dare rocket and Captain Nemo's submarine, the Tatra was the first production saloon car built to take advantage of the new science of aerodynamics and so provide stability and comfort for occupants cruising at speed.

The car is a motoring milestone, the first successful effort at using a wind-tunnel to produce an aerodynamic car, and testimony that cars can not only work well but also look good — indeed look perfectly outrageous. This is one streamlined car that would never disappear into the crowd in a multi-storey car park.

With its shark-like rear fin, steeply raked and louvred back panel, and innovative engineering which includes an air-cooled V8 engine at the back (an idea said to have heavily influenced Ferdinand Porsche), the aerodynamic Tatras had a top speed in excess of 100mph, unheard of in an age when the performance of most cars expired long before reaching today's motorway limit.

Yet the Tatra reached such speeds with a 75bhp engine, around half as powerful as those of the very few other cars then able to attain 100mph plus.

The owner of one of the few examples in Britain, Dr Peter Ratcliffe says: "Production cars capable of 100mph were a rarity. There was the Alvis and the three and a half litre SS100, but that had 125bhp. It got by on brute force with no room for occupants. The Tatra transported four or five people in armchair comfort, and they could talk to each other. Of course, it couldn't go round corners."

The Tatra is now being reintroduced into Britain by way of the 3.5 litre air-cooled T613/5. But the latest, blatantly box-shaped saloon models are nothing like as dramatically striking as the three-litre Type 87 that is now Dr Ratcliffe's pride and joy. At Europe's leading classic car show this month the Essen Techno-Klassica, Dr Ratcliffe, a former marine biologist turned car restorer, expects his quintessentially British MG sports cars to have crowds flocking to his stand.

But in between showing his MGs, he will be making yet more contacts in his search for Tatra information and parts. For precious few Tatras have made it outside the former Czechoslovakia.

A pilgrimage to the Tatra factory and a search through the plant's 3ft-wide, hand-written record book, shows that Dr Ratcliffe's car rolled off the production line in June 1948 and at the time would have cost around £670. That put it far beyond the reach of the general public — they made do with the humble Skoda — but it was the preferred official car for legions of communist government officials.

The streamlined machine was the brainchild of Hans Ledwinka, Tatra technical director, and Dr Ratcliffe is full of admiration for his work: "When the car was launched it cost about twice as much as an SS Jaguar and half as much as a Bentley. There had been one or two styling attempts in America and Britain to produce an aerodynamic car but nothing designed, like this, in a wind tunnel.

"The attention to detail is fantastic. Having stripped it down you can see that the mechanical work is on a par with anything from Rolls-Royce." The car has worn well, partly because all the important piping and cables are carried within the chassis, for greater protection, rather than being fastened alongside it on the outside."

One rather severe drawback is the almost complete lack of vision to the rear. The driver must peer into the mirror and try to see back through a number of panes of glass (which help quieten the noise from the rear-mounted engine) and a partition, to squint through the back-facing louvres.

Dr Ratcliffe says: "Of course, at the time the car was built, seeing out the back wasn't a problem. It would cruise at 85mph which meant nothing else could keep up so there was never anything behind for you to look at." Dr Ratcliffe bought the car for "a few thousand pounds" after it was exported — legally — from the former Czechoslovakia: "There are various stories of people trying to get the cars out without the required paperwork and spending time in Czech prisons as a result."

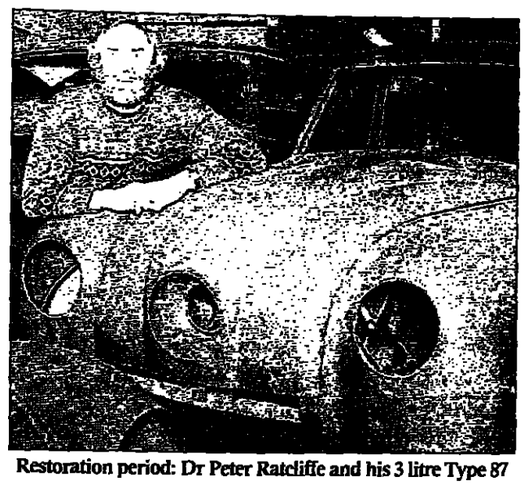
Dr Ratcliffe, a doctor of biology who gave up years of research on marine life around the Humber Estuary to turn his love of cars into his job, is now restoring the Tatra at his garage in Hull: "I had been looking for a pre-war designed aerodynamic car for many years and there isn't a great deal of choice."

So far work on the Tatra has taken Dr Ratcliffe all over Western and former Eastern Europe.

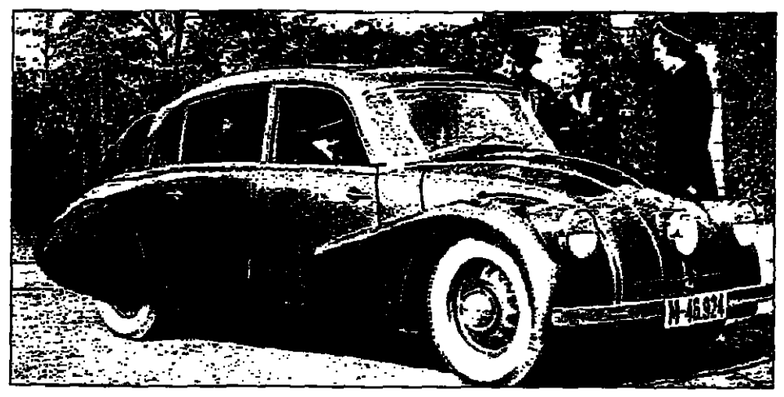
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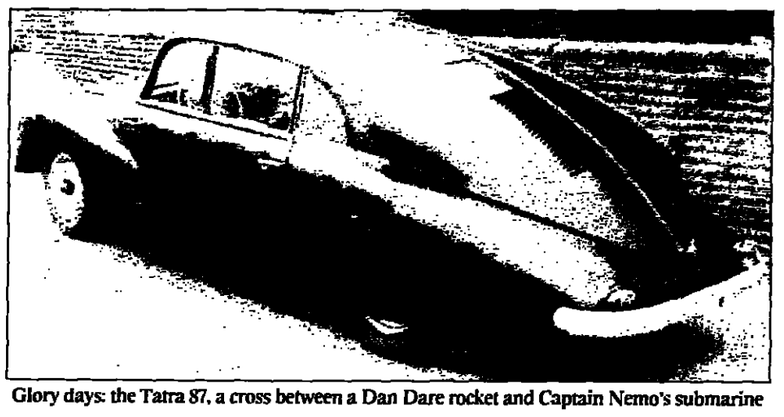


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Restoration period: Dr Peter Ratcliffe and his 3 litre Type 87





Glory days: the Tatra 87, a cross between a Dan Dare rocket and Captain Nemo's submarine

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A You bet. The statistics are horrendous: drivers under 21 are four times more likely to make a motor insurance claim than a 40-year-old and account for a quarter of all road deaths.

Q So what is the problem?

A Usually inexperience and hot-headedness. Youngsters might think they can drive, but they are more likely to crash in the first two years after passing their test than at any other time.

Q Now we really are worried. Apart from the insurance penalty, how can we be sure that our teenager will be safe?

A Remember that driving is for life and needs continuous education. The Government this week decided to help both with insurance problems and safety by launching Pass Plus, a scheme to take youngsters on from the driving test into road skills.

Q We have already paid for lessons, doesn't this mean extra cost?

A Yes, but the reward is discounts of as much as £100 in the first year of driving on insurance premiums. So the investment is repaid by the discount.

Q Sounds good. How do we find out the details?

A Try your insurance broker, your driving school or local test centre. The Driving Standards Agency (0115-9557600) also has the register of insurance companies taking part.

Q Do the lessons take long and why are they different?

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Q It sounds comprehensive but can the course guarantee that my youngster will drive safely?

A No. The course will be a big help but human nature means that its positive effects will wear off after a while. That means the lessons learned in Pass Plus have to be hammered home periodically.

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Tyrrell in search of the winning formula

Bill Frost sees the gods of Formula One smile again on a team in search of success

When not behind the wheel, Ukyo Katayama appears to be the mildest of men — a doting father of two who claims to enjoy nothing more than hunting down bargains at Surrey car boot sales and the odd round of golf. However, out on the circuit he becomes a ruthless warrior who neither gives nor expects any quarter from his rivals.

Katayama, star performer with the Tyrrell team, freely admits that he has sold his eternal soul to Formula One. "I am in love with speed and have been ever since I was 16 — it gets into your blood and beats in your heart," he says.

Sitting cross-legged on a workbench, the 31-year-old Japanese driver beams with pleasure as the mechanics signal that the car is ready for him. "Driving for Tyrrell is my job and my life. Sure, I have lost 10 friends in the sport during as many years, but death is a risk you have to face," Katayama says.

With a roar his car disappears up the pit lane to the circuit beyond. The mechanics, who, extraordinarily, never appear begrimed by their work, nod approvingly as he takes the first bend at speed.

"Ukyo's good, bloody good indeed," says one. "I reckon we are back to the glory days," he adds as the car flashes past the pits at about 156mph.

As even the most casual observer must be aware, Formula One's cruel and prodigal god makes and breaks teams and drivers on a whim. So it was that Tyrrell, once among the best and brightest in the sport, slowly slid from prominence to near obscurity.

However, that same god can occasionally show mercy. He is once again smiling on Tyrrell and, 12 years after their last significant Grand Prix victory, the Surrey-based team is preparing for the forthcoming season with a new sense of purpose and determination.

There is a new car, a new Yamaha three-litre engine, a new chassis and new suspension which the men who know about these matters describe as "revolutionary". It will be unveiled officially on Monday. As importantly perhaps, the sponsors whose largesse the teams rely upon are showing a great deal of interest in Tyrrell once again.

At tests in Jérez last month they came, nodded approvingly and prepared to dig deep into their wallets. They watched as the mechanics worked tirelessly and the drivers waited patiently.

The team's routine during the tests in southern Spain would shatter the health of all but the hardiest. Bleary-eyed, pale and hungry, they assemble before first light to begin their exhausting devotions.

The rules of this strict blue-overalled order demand that they sleep a few hours only each night, work an 18-hour day and genuflect constantly around the holy object they guard with their lives.

The uninitiated believe these men are part of a glamorous world where the good times roll: champagne and starlets at every pit stop. However, don't be fooled — Formula One is not about that at all.

Katayama neither smokes nor drinks and is fast asleep many hours before the first nightclub is open. "Alcohol does not agree with me. One glass of whisky and I sing loudly for a few minutes and then go into a deep sleep," he says.

Keen to display his skill, Katayama invites us to join him on a few laps of the Jérez circuit in a modest Renault family saloon. Within seconds the car is squealing around tight bends on two wheels.

"Not enough power," he shouts above the scream of the engine and the whimpering of his passengers. "Try to imagine we are cornering at more than twice this speed," he adds as the Renault's brakes begin to smoke and the car hurtles into another evil curve.

Back in the pits two nightmare laps later, Katayama lowers himself into the cockpit of the snorting beast his mechanics have been working on since before first light. He waits for an hour while they tweak and caress the engine, apparently impervious to the blast of the exhaust.

Mike Gascoyne, Tyrrell's deputy technical director and a man with a reputation for demanding the best from driver and machine, allows himself just a hint of a smile once Katayama is back on the circuit. "His times are getting better and better," he confides after looking at a computer printout.

Gascoyne does not suffer fools gladly on the circuit, so technical questions are best left unasked by those who are unable to strip and re-assemble a Formula One engine in less than two hours. Like his fellow team members, he has given up normal conversation for a language that baffles an outsider. Over a beer at the end of yet another long day, Gascoyne will loosen up slightly though. His eyes mist over when he speaks of the sport he loves.

"Sure, I am hooked — who wouldn't be? And no, I don't want to be behind the wheel myself, I just want to see one of Tyrrell's drivers winning this season, there is no feeling to compare with that," he says.

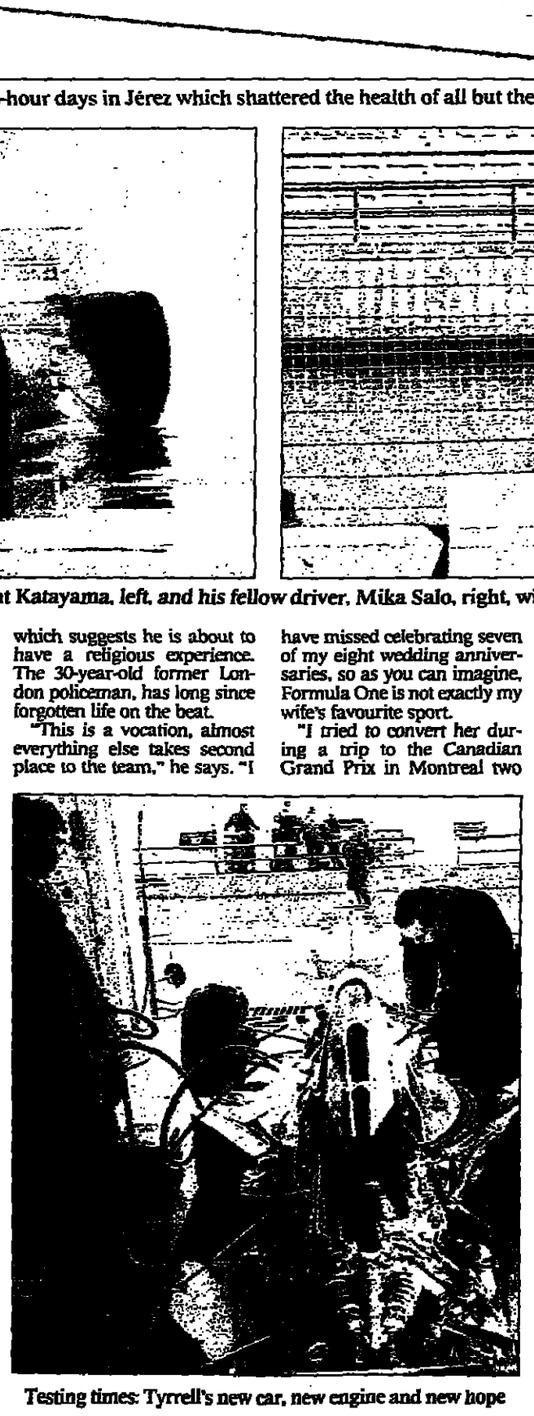
Several beers later, at a time when one might expect the conversation to have switched to more vulgar topics, the mechanics are still talking engines and prospects for the forthcoming season. "Yes, I suppose we are a bit like monks in blue overalls," one admits. "Once you're in Formula One there is no other subject for conversation," he adds.

Dawn the following day and the team is back at the circuit kneeling around the two cars to be tested. Abba are on the sound system competing unsuccessfully with engines which at only half throttle would waken the dead.

Steve Nielsen, assistant team manager, stands staring at the cars with an expression which suggests he is about to have a religious experience. The 30-year-old former London policeman, has long since forgotten life on the beat.

"This is a vocation, almost everything else takes second place to the team," he says. "I have missed celebrating seven of my eight wedding anniversaries, so as you can imagine, Formula One is not exactly my wife's favourite sport.

"I tried to convert her during a trip to the Canadian Grand Prix in Montreal two years ago. She came to the race but didn't enjoy it at all, I think she left before it was over," he adds, shaking his head in puzzlement.



Testing times: Tyrrell's new car, new engine and new hope

At lunch Katayama looks worried. He picks at the food, even turning up his nose at the ripe Brie he normally enjoys so much.

The driver, who has been with Tyrrell since 1993, watches a young man in racing overalls who arrived at the circuit just a few hours earlier. Like gunfighters the pair size each other up while the mechanics wolf down enormous portions of chilli.

So, who is this stranger? "Mika Salo, he's a 27-year-old Finn, he's very hot and could well end up driving for us this coming season," confides a member of the team between mouthfuls.

Katayama's expression grows more preoccupied as the Finn's performance on the circuit later draws delighted grins from the men in the pits. Salo, a James Hunt look-alike, is modest about his performance. "It was the car, not really me at all," he says with a shy smile.

The arrival of the new driver reveals a gloomier side to Katayama's nature. That night he talks of mortality and admits to anxiety on the grid.

"Sometimes I get scared. I pray to God and cross myself as I wait for the start," he says, fingering a lucky charm on a chain around his neck.

He talks too of his life in the Home Counties during the months spent close to the Tyrrell factory in Ockham. "I love car boot sales, you can find such bargains. I play golf and watch my wife work in the garden — she has green fingers, is that what you say?"

Late the following morning beneath a blinding Spanish winter sun, Salo's times are better than ever. Then, over the headphones each team member wears, he is heard shouting: "It's on fire, it's on fire."

Rupert Manwaring, the team manager, frowns for a second. "Hit the extinguisher, just hit the extinguisher," he says over the intercom.

We dash across the circuit towards a plume of oily grey smoke to find Salo standing by his car. A pool of oil marks the spot where his engine blew up.

"I was taking the bend at about 150mph in fifth, then there was a problem," he says with a shrug. "No, of course I wasn't frightened, just annoyed that there will now be a two-hour delay before I can get a new engine in and return to the circuit."

Back at the field kitchen where the food is prepared, the chefs lower the heat under the dishes they had been preparing. "Replacing an engine will delay lunch until about 2pm," says Nick Haworth of MSL Location Services, the company that has fed Tyrrell for the past two seasons.

"They're not that fussy about their food really. But woe betide you if you give them something they don't like," said Haworth.

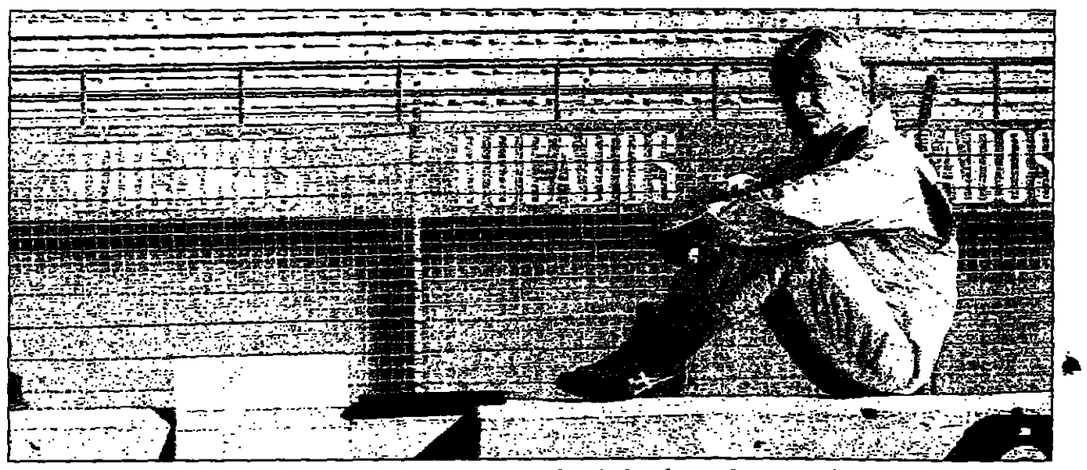
That night in the bar after Katayama and Salo have long since gone to bed, the mechanics discuss the relative merits of the two drivers and the team's prospects for the next season. They agree the pair are ideally matched to bring the best out in each other.

"We are the team that gave Jackie Stewart three world championships and started Jody Scheckter, and Jean Alesi. These two we have now will get us back where we belong — not top four, but almost certainly No 5," says one mechanic.

Photographs by Simon Walker

Images of Tyrrell: top, snapshots from exhausting, 18-hour days in Jérez which shattered the health of all but the hardiest, and above, Ukyo Katayama, who freely admits "I am in love with speed"





Toughs of the track: the Tyrrell team is hoping that Katayama, left, and his fellow driver, Mika Salo, right, will bring out the best from each other during the coming season in Formula One

Andrew Pierce jogs the memory of a Transport Minister in a jam

More views from Norris on transport's 'dreadful' world

Steven Norris, the Transport Minister, upset millions of users of public transport this week when he branded them "dreadful human beings". Giving evidence to the Commons Environmental Select Committee he spoke up for the motorist and the "extraordinarily convenient" car.

Mr Norris, who has shares in a VW/Audi dealership, has changed his tune. Last July he was making the opposite point in the Steering Column, which we repeat today. He had no qualms about public transport then. He was launching a new London bus card.

Since this week's story appeared he says that "hundreds of people have telephoned" to say they agree with what he said.

Here's how Mr Norris answered our questions about public transport back in July.

How did you first learn to drive?

In a Ford Anglia in Liverpool where I was brought up. They were all the rage in those days. Well it was 1962 and I was only 17. A relatively painless experience. No. I never for one moment thought back then that one day I would be the Roads Minister.

What was your first car?

My father bought me a Rover 20. It was only fit for following cars at funerals it was so slow. It ought to have been in a funeral. Its biggest selling point was the gear shift: a screwdriver.

What car do you drive now and why?

When I am not in my chauffeur-driven ministerial car I drive a Jaguar Sovereign. It is a superb car ideal for long distances or in traffic. They are ludicrously cheap to buy second-hand. They are also the very best of British.

STEERING COLUMN

Do you enjoy driving?

Not as much as I used to. There are far too many cars on the road and too many traffic jams. We have to get people out of cars, buses and lorries and on to trains and trams.

What is your dream car?

The Aston Martin DB7. I think it will be a dream for a lot longer at least while I am a minister.

What is your most hated car?

The Austin Allegro. They were always going wrong and they were unbelievably ugly.

What is your worst habit in the car?

Endlessly consuming salt and vinegar crisps. Bad for my waistline and the car is always littered with their debris.

What infuriates you most about other drivers?

Sheer lack of awareness of the needs of other motorists. Drivers of all ages are guilty of it. I try not to be. So should you.

What is the most unusual thing you have done in your car?

Wouldn't you like to know!

If you were appointed as Secretary of State for Transport, what is the first thing you would do?

I would not be presumptous to assume that I would ever become the Secretary of State. The one we have is doing a perfectly good job. But, if I were to be promoted, I would make sure we explain to people more about why there are roadworks. When there are miles and miles of orange cones, but nothing seems to be happening, the Department must try to explain what is going on. I know it is frustrating to be held-up. We are trying to improve it. Which is why we have set up the cones helpline. Call it.

What is your favourite/most hated car advertisement?

I can't think of one. I never get a chance to see the television. I'm too busy with the red boxes.

JOHN MANNING



Transport of delight: Steven Norris at the launch of his London bus card

1961 Morris for sale — one owner, 343 miles

BY KEVIN EASON

EVEN Arthur Daley would barely be able to believe his eyes if he could see the little bargain coming up at auction soon.

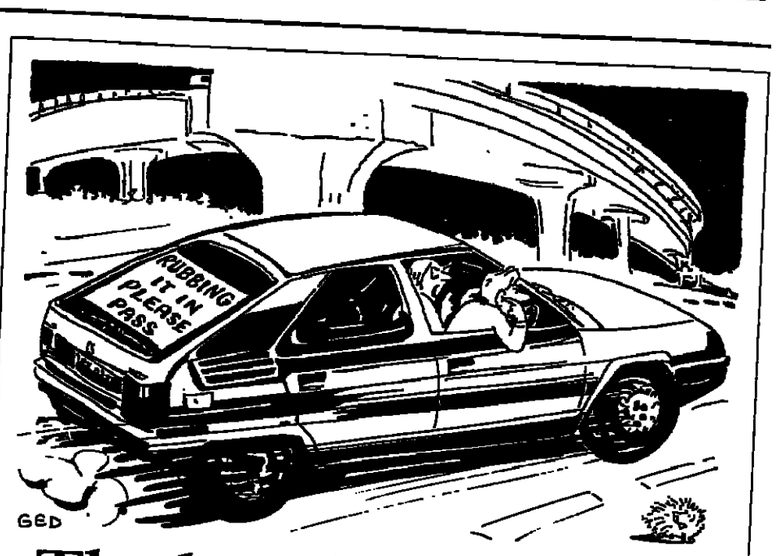
For this runabout has averaged only ten miles a year. The Morris Minor 1000 going on sale at ADT's classic and historic sale at Blackbushe, Camberley, Surrey, on February 20 really did have just one owner and the odometer after 34 years has rolled around to only 343 miles.

The 1961 Minor comes from a collection of 17 cars, which were owned by Stanley Cohen, a North London businessman who has been so enthusiastic about collecting classics, he has ended up with too many.

His collection was dotted around the country, with cars parked in the garages of friends and in specialist centres. He decided to sell some to make room and the names read like a roll-call of British motoring history with a Humber, Reliant, Morris, Austin, Rover and Sunbeam on sale.

Every vehicle in the collection seems barely to have turned a wheel in anger, like the Austin A35 delivery van which between being sold in 1961 and 1988 had managed to cover only 16 miles.

But the star of the show could be the little Morris 1000, a model so disliked by William Morris that he described it as looking like "a poached egg" when it was shown for the first time by Sir Alec Issigonis. Issigonis had no need to worry because the Minor went on to be the first British car to sell a million and this 1961 relic could bring £5,000. The Cohen collection is among more than 100 cars at the auction which starts at 1pm. Further information from Malcolm Welford on 0252-878555.



GED

The love bug: a route to a richer marriage

A domestic dispute to settle? Corner him in the car and you're en route to a happy ending, says **Celia Haddon**

We all know that a car is more, much more, than just four wheels to go from A to B. Considerable attention has been paid to the car as status symbol, as opportunity for hanky-panky, and even as Freudian substitute for intimate anatomy.

Yet no research has been done on the car as marriage enrichment unit, a kind of caring and sharing wagon. This is what I use it for.

All women know the awful moment when Something Will Have To Be Discussed. Men know it too. They can sense it coming and usually take evasive action: men loathe talking things out.

My husband uses jokes, because if he can make me laugh, I may forget to raise the subject. Other evasive tactics include bringing back awful people en masse from the pub in order to block a serious discussion, working late, or flying off on a business trip.

I have my rule about raising Things Which Must be Said. Tricky subjects must not be mentioned if either of us is drunk, tired, genuinely worried, ill or distracted by other matters. That way lies the all-out marital row. It is difficult to find a time when both partners are sober, unstressed and not too knackered — except, that is, driving time. And every week we have three hours driving to and from our country cottage.

Ideally, I raise the subject as we pass the M25 junction and the M40 unfolds ahead. "Darling," I say, "there is something we have to talk about." This, as most wives know, can be anything from the way he fails to put the milk back into the fridge to the general state of our marriage. I use my calm, caring voice, as advised by my therapist; the same calm, caring voice that seems to put him in a mood of excitable irritation and hatred.

But he can't escape. He cannot do a bunk to the pub or disappear into the lavatory. He cannot even stop on the hard shoulder, since the police would never accept that it was a psychological emergency for him.

I have him, if not his attention, for the next 25 minutes until we turn on to the Oxford by-pass. It appears to work. He listens but sometimes I wonder if he hears. He often seems to spray water on the windscreen, turn up the heater or demist the back window at these moments. Are these merely displacement activities showing his frustrated desire to escape, or is he managing to tune me out with them?

Lately, I have had to modify the therapeutic discussion technique. A Citroen BX cruising at 70mph is not the best place to discuss subjects likely to send one or both of us berserk. A single swerve of manic anger and we could both be squashed food for motorway magpies.

So for incendiary subjects I am considering moving the marital therapy space to the bathroom. He, prone in the tub, will have to listen.

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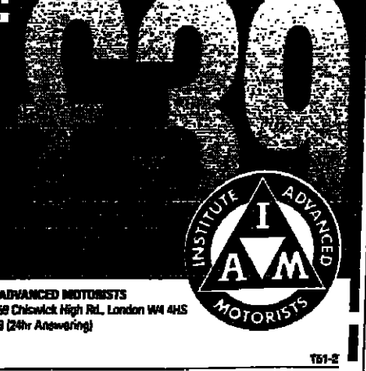
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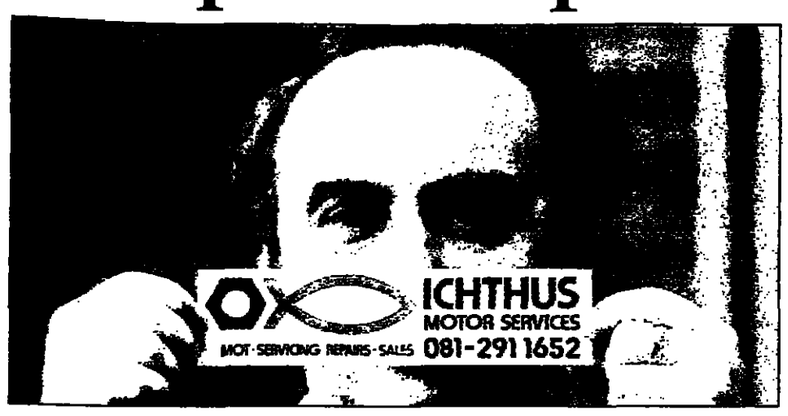
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2 MINUTES FROM JUNCTION 28 OF THE M25

Praise the Lord and pass the pliers



No pin-ups, no roll-ups — and no rip-offs. Jonathan Sale visits a garage with a mission

The notice on the office door reads "Be an Angel — Don't smoke". There are no pin-ups. Where am I, a garage or a monastery? A bit of both. It's a garage: a Christian garage.

Ichthus Motor Services is near Forest Hill, off London's South Circular. That's services as in vehicle, but in his private capacity proprietor Len Carne is also interested in the religious variety. In addition, he runs a charity which hires out cars cheaply to missionaries home on leave.

Here beginneth the interview with Len, a 45-year-old evangelical Christian with a doctorate in biochemistry. "I'm not saying for one moment that we're the only honest garage." But his last words to me are: "We haven't found anywhere in the world, let alone in the country, where they are doing this."

In between, he explains what "this" is and its genesis. His career began, he says, in a pathology lab, which led to a degree then a Ph D. Medical research seems a perfectly adequate way of doing God's work but Len's feelings were different: "I ended up doing some very academic research but I wanted contact with people. I was 30; I'd recently become a Christian, my contract was coming to an end and it was the right time to make a change."

It was in 1979 that he became a born-again garage mechanic. "I'd had my head under a bonnet since I was 10. From the age of 17, my friends and relations brought their cars to me to service. Why? First, I was cheaper; second, they could trust me. If I said, 'I've changed the brake-pads,' they knew I'd changed the brake-pads. I feel I'm doing what God wants."

The name he chose to trade under reflected his particular brand of Christianity. Ichthus, Greek for fish, has been a Christian symbol since the days of the early church. Today it is associated with evangelical Christianity: although he has no connection with the nearby Ichthus Christian Fellowship — apart from having some of its members as customers — they are both involved in announcing the Good News. Len, who attends a Baptist church, says: "There is a thread of people that truly love the Lord, throughout all the denominations."

On the phone to the uninitiated, it can be a chore to spell out the Ichthus bit of his company name but it provides an opportunity to explain the derivation and possibly spread the Word.

None of this seems to have hindered his business, even in the early days. "It was just me and a van," he recalls. "Then I got to know a retired chappie who still did a bit of bodywork; he worked out of the back of a church." It was at least better than the back of a lorry, but they moved into the present premises three years later. His colleague has since retired for good but his daughter now works in the office. "There are about six of us now," says Len.

But are they Christians? "About half and half. And Les is on the fence." The staff are hired for their skill, not their hymn-singing; yet they say the place has a different atmosphere to any other garage in which they've worked. No saucy calendars, so often the hallmark of the motor trade; and there is also the charity side.

"This Christian chappie, a customer, phoned up out of the blue and said, 'I feel I should give you this car.' I said, 'Fair enough,' and we had the idea of lending it to missionaries home on leave. We got given another and another. We've got 115 now.

"Some are just good for spares and others are quite a sacrifice; people are led by the Lord to give cars they could sell for thousands. One chap wanted to sell his car for £1. He was too embarrassed to tell his mates he'd given it away."

To look after this philanthropic fleet, Len set up Ichthus Motor Mission, a registered charity whose logo is a fish with a nut in its tail. It breaks even by charging 8p per mile, plus £40 per month. "A blessing," declares a motorised missionary from Mexico. Amen, say evangelists from Thailand, Zimbabwe, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines.

Do they have to be Baptists? "No, anybody's missionaries — if they are of an evangelical bent. We haven't found ourselves refusing anybody."

Praise the Lord and pass the ignition key. The Bishop of Woolwich and his wife are among the garage's customers — but so are local Muslims.

"I am a Christian running a garage and seeking to do God's work," says Len. Ruefully, he accepts that the Christian tag can be a handicap: "Some people expect you will charge hardly anything and their car will never go wrong." Honestly, what do they want — miracles?

Ichthus Motor Services is at 41 Grove Close, London SE23 1AS (081-291 1652).

JAMES MORGAN



God's handyman: Len Carne with company logo and a car sent for Christian healing

Black box may end crash rows

Kevin Eason on a high-tech part that can resolve insurance disputes

Millions of drivers will soon be monitored by aircraft-style black box recorders to tell insurers who was at fault in a crash.

The revolution in microelectronics means cars can be fitted with computers which record every time the driver brakes, how quickly the car is being driven and whether it had to be stopped in an emergency.

Honda is already fitting its 1995 Civic models, made at Swindon, Wiltshire, with a small black box, pioneering the way for the rest of the industry.

The recorder is linked to the car's airbag system. After a crash, a microchip will have the sequence of events immediately before impact indelibly printed on it.

The information is not yet available to insurers but by examining the data, Honda's engineers say they can study the performance of the car in a crash and make improvements in the next generation of models.

The black boxes work exactly like those in aircraft, measuring speed and telemetry so that if the vehicle was making sharp movements, engineers could decide whether it was breaking speed limits or was out of control.

Although the biggest benefit could be in helping determine who was at fault in a crash, the box could also revolutionise Britain's huge fleet industry. Companies can for the first time measure accurately whether their drivers are wasting fuel and adding to maintenance costs by driving too quickly and recklessly.

Fleet Support Group (FSG), based in Chippenham, Wiltshire, claims its box could cut the running costs of a company car by as much as half, simply by identifying bad drivers.

Geoffrey Bray, FSG's director, says the black box could be used to educate drivers, and make them safer. "This is not the use of Big Brother alongside the driver, but tests have clearly shown that improved driver care cuts maintenance, fuel and accident costs."

A BMW 316i test car over 60,000 miles or three years would have a projected average running cost of £2,096, or 3.5p a mile. A good driver would shave costs to £1,522 — but a bad one could run up a bill of £3,699, because his car would use more fuel, need more servicing and more vital parts, such as frequent brake replacement.

> 'Improved driver care cuts fuel and accident costs'

FSG says its system, which starts at £300, could record simple data such as acceleration, harsh braking, over-revving, speeding and cornering. Even the number of times the brake lights come on could be counted.

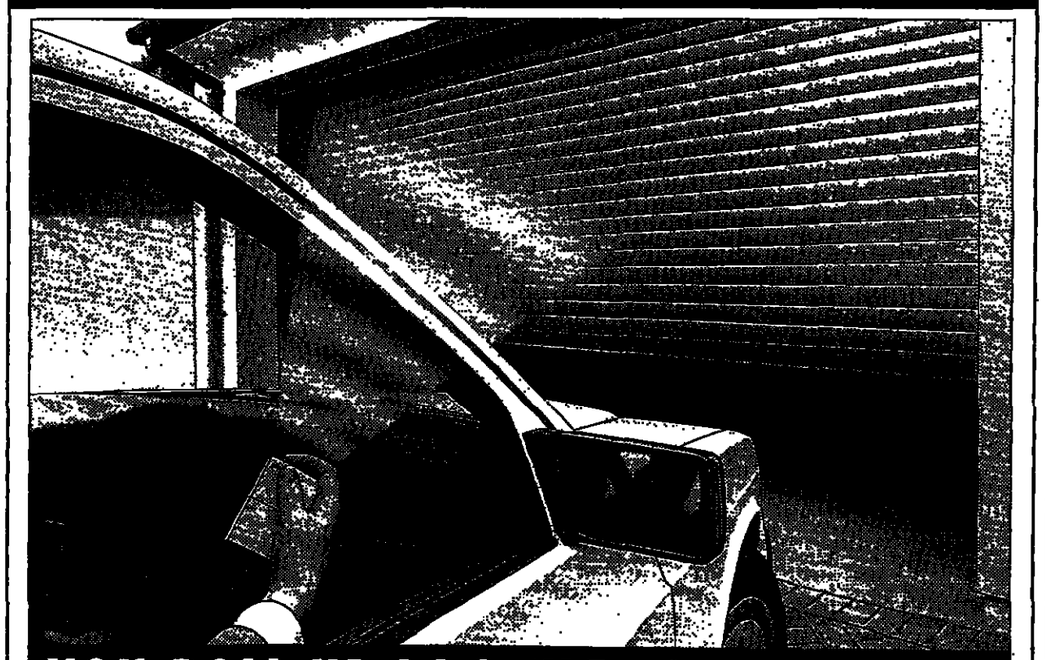
The information between the best and worst drivers could be compared and drawn into a league table, so that the costlier drivers were aware they were burning five-pound notes every time they slammed their foot down on the throttle or brake.

The Environmental Transport Association has launched a campaign to have the boxes fitted as standard to all cars as a way of modifying driver behaviour.

Andrew Davis, the association's director, said: "Most crashes are caused by driver error, and the technology now exists to stop people getting away with dangerous driving."

The ETA might not have long to wait. Following Honda are companies such as Toyota in Britain and General Motors, which owns Vauxhall and is already fitting black boxes to its Saturn small car range in the USA.

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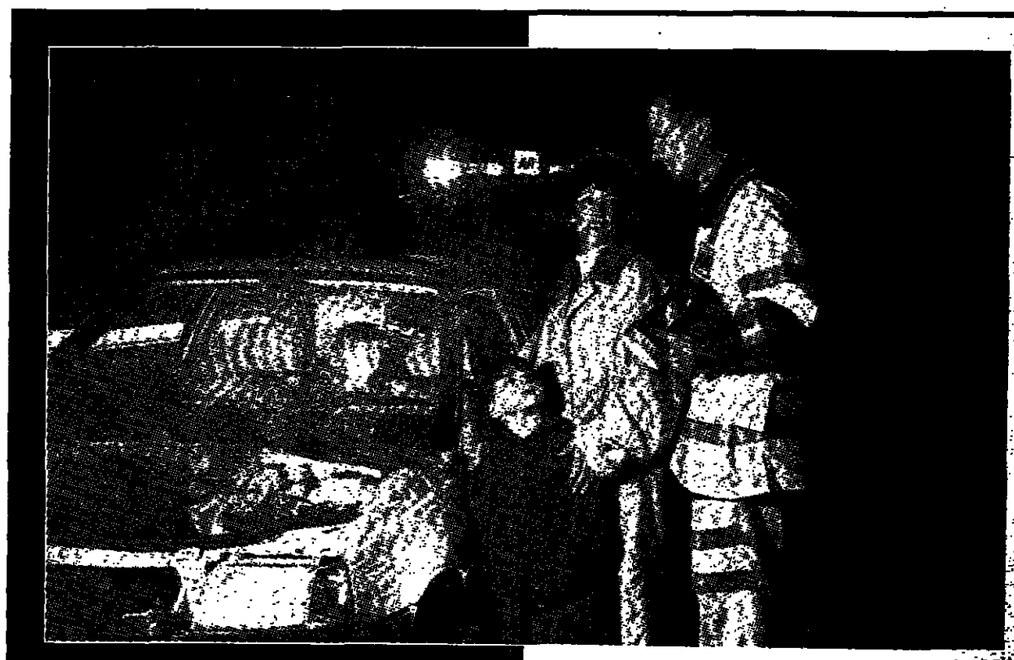
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